

2 Israelis stabbed in Jerusalem

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) — Two Israelis were stabbed near the walls of the Old City in occupied Jerusalem on Saturday, Jerusalem hospital officials said. The two were taken to the Bikur Holim and Shaarei Tzedek hospitals. An official at Shaarei Tzedek hospital who asked not to be identified, said one victim, a 25-year-old man, was undergoing an operation after suffering multiple stab wounds in the chest. He was listed in medium condition. The official refused to give his name. An official at Bikur Holim Hospital identified the second victim as Avi Ohayon, 24, and said he was in satisfactory condition. The Jerusalem police spokesman was unavailable for comment on the incident. Tensions between Arabs and Israelis have been high in the city since the Nov. 15 stabbing death of a Jewish religious seminary student in the Arab side of the city.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordanian Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية - الرابطة

Arab League welcomes U.N. call

TUNIS (R) — The Arab League has welcomed a call this week by the Secretary-General of the United Nations for a Security Council meeting at foreign minister level to try to end the Iran-Iraq war. The General Secretariat of the 21-member League said in a statement that such a meeting "should constitute a turning point" in the search for a peace settlement. The Security Council has the means under the U.N. charter to "take a number of measures to impose peace and to force the recalcitrant party (Iran) to conform to international wishes," the statement added. Bahrain welcomed the U.N. call, with Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammad bin Mubarak Al Khalifa saying in a statement: "This is a positive move, and we hope the U.N. will shoulder its responsibility in maintaining peace and security in the region."

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Injured Palestinians leave Lebanon

TYRE, Lebanon (R) — The Lebanese Red Cross Saturday evacuated four wounded Palestinians, including two commandos, from a South Lebanon refugee camp besieged by Shiite Muslim militiamen, witnesses said. They said Amal militiamen, who have ringed Rashidiyah camp near Tyre since Sept. 30, allowed two Red Cross vehicles to evacuate the two fighters and two women.

Saudi education minister dies

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia's minister of higher education, Sheikh Hassan Abdullah Al Sheikh, died Saturday after a heart attack at the age of 55, the Saudi Press Agency reported.

Bourguiba pardons 1,214 prisoners

TUNIS (R) — President Habib Bourguiba granted total or partial pardons Saturday to 1,214 prisoners to mark Tunisia's Revolution Day Sunday, the official TAP news agency said.

53 die in Filipino boat accident

CEBU CITY, Philippines (AP) — At least 53 people died and an undetermined number of others were missing after a boat carrying participants to a Roman Catholic festival sank near an island in the central Philippines, coast guard authorities said Saturday.

18 drown in southern India

NEW DELHI (AP) — Eighteen people drowned Saturday when a boat sank in southern India, the United News of India (UNI) reported. The agency, quoting district officials, said the boat capsized in the Krishna River in Mahabubnagar district in Andhra Pradesh state, about 400 kilometres south of the state capital of Hyderabad.

15 Muslim pilgrims drown in Bangladesh

DHAKA (R) — At least 15 Muslim pilgrims drowned when a boat carrying them was in a collision and capsized in a river north of Dhaka Friday, police said Saturday.

Group claims fire at U.K. plane factory

SALISBURY, England (R) — A shadowy British anarchist group called the "Angry Brigade" said Saturday it started an overnight fire at a factory producing the revolutionary "bug eye" plane and police confirmed the blaze, was arson. The fire caused damage estimated at £4 million (\$6 million) at the Optica factory near this south western town where the revolutionary observation plane dubbed "bug eye," sometimes described as a "flying light bulb," is produced.

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Iraqi jets raid Khomeini's headquarters in Tehran

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said its warplanes attacked the Tehran headquarters of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and other targets in Iran and the Gulf Saturday.

As ground troops fought fierce battles east of the southern port city of Basra, a High Command communiqué said a "heroic formation" had attacked the headquarters of the Iranian leader at 12:05 p.m. (0905 GMT).

In Tehran, a loud explosion was heard at 0910 GMT followed by anti-aircraft fire and air raid sirens, and Tehran Radio later said three people were killed.

Baghdad residents saw dozens of jets heading eastwards early Saturday, and the official Iraqi News Agency INA said the planes had also destroyed a surface-to-air missile base across the border and a large naval target in the Gulf.

The expression "large naval target" is usually taken to mean a merchant ship or an oil tanker, but there was no immediate confirmation of the attack from Gulf shipping sources.

An Iraqi military spokesman

also fighting in the central sector of the warfront, 450 kilometres north of Basra and 120 kilometres east of Baghdad.

Iraq says the Iranian offensive in that sector has been repelled. The raid on Tehran, the first this year, came after four Iranian missile strikes at Baghdad within a week, which officials said killed or wounded many civilians. Precise casualty figures were not given.

Another 95 civilians were killed and 562 were injured in Iranian attacks over the past week, according to official figures.

Friday night's war communiqué reported nine civilians killed and 63 injured by Iranian air and artillery attacks on Basra and two northern towns.

Diplomats in Baghdad said a Basra hotel was hit by shells earlier this week, and some Basra residents, including personnel of foreign companies, had moved to safer areas.

INA said Iraqi jets had flown 1,854 sorties and helicopter gunships 1,444 combat missions since the start of the latest Iranian offensive in the south on Jan. 9.

It said over a dozen Iranian cities and towns had been attacked

King Hussein holds talks with Pope; ends state visit to Italy

VATICAN CITY (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein met with Pope John Paul II for half an hour on Saturday, explaining to the Pontiff his thoughts on the Middle East situation, the Vatican spokesman said.

"The holy father listened with interest, aware of the experience and wisdom of the sovereign," Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro said in a brief statement.

He said the meeting at the papal library without aides or interpreters was "informative in character and took place in a cordial atmosphere."

"His Majesty explained his thoughts on the Middle East situation, for which equitable solutions are always sought," Navarro said, adding that the two spoke in English.

The King, on the last day of his three-day official visit to Italy, also conferred with Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Agostino Casaroli.

King Hussein's visit was termed private and no details of his talks were made available. Vatican sources said, however, that the King briefed the Pope and Cardinal Casaroli about Jordan's aid project for the Israeli-occupied territories.

The King, clad in a blue pin-striped suit and a blue tie, was saluted by an honour platoon of Swiss Guards upon his arrival at the apostolic palace.

"Nice to see you," the Pontiff said as he greeted the King in front of his library. "It's my great pleasure," responded the King.

Rifai returns

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri Saturday returned home after taking part in the talks which His Majesty King Hussein held during his current visits to France and Italy.

They were received upon arrival at Amman airport by Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali, a number of ministers, Army Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fahd Abul Taleb and high ranking army officers.

After the meeting, the King introduced his son Prince Abdullah and five top Jordanian government officials, including Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al

Qusem and Foreign Minister Taher Masri.

The Pope gave the King pontifical medals and a bronze statue of the Madonna and Jesus done by a Japanese artist. The King presented the Pope with a Bible with ornate mother-of-pearl covers and a matching case, plus a silver coffee set with his royal emblem embossed in gold.

It was the fourth time the King met with a Roman Pontiff. The King was the last when Pope Paul VI went to Amman on Jan. 4, 1964. King Hussein visited Pope Paul at the Vatican on April 29, 1978, and first met with Pope John Paul here on Sept. 1, 1980.

The Holy See refuses to establish diplomatic relations with Jordan, on grounds that the country's boundaries are unsettled. The question of unsettled boundaries is also cited as a reason for the lack of diplomatic ties between the Vatican and Israel.

King Hussein and Queen Noor later travelled to Venice for a two-day private visit before returning to Jordan.

Before leaving Rome the King said he was "greatly satisfied" with the results of his talks with

(Continued on page 3)

Iraq confident it can repel any Iranian advance on Basra...

By Lami K. Andoni in Baghdad

IRAQ IS confident of its ability to repel any attempt by Iranian forces to advance on the eastern sector of Basra and establish a stronghold in Iraq's southern city, according to Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan.

Mr. Ramadan said that Iraqi forces were ready for Iran's long-heralded final offensive and promised heavy casualties on the Iranian side.

On the evening of Jan. 9, Iran launched its second large offensive against Iraq in two weeks and Iranian frogmen successfully infiltrated the swamps and an artificial water barrier known as Fish Lake to solid ground six to eight miles east of the southern port of Basra.

The Iraqi army was able to repulse the attack and drive them back to the swamps between the Fish Lake and the borders.

But the Iranians kept their human wave attacks, under the cover of night, trying to go beyond the lake from the south in an attempt to create an opening to Basra.

Mr. Ramadan said the Iraqi forces easily repelled the Iranians, in no time, from the eastern marshes "but such an operation, he explained, would be at the expense of losing the opportunity to kill as big a number of them as possible, who oddly enough keep their influx to the killing zone."

The Iraqi army kept on shelling the swampy area "the killing zone" with heavy artillery and surface-to-surface missiles in order to score a big number of casualties among the Iranians, but military experts said that Iraqis could not afford to launch a big counter attack to finish off the operation swiftly, since that would lead to sustaining heavy Iraqi casualties.

Military experts believe that

Kuwait inaugurates summit palace

KUWAIT (R) — The Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, inaugurated amid tight security a new palace built to host an Islamic summit meeting later this month.

The 110 million dinar (\$385 million) Palace of Congress 10 kilometres south of Kuwait City was built specially for the Jan. 26-28 summit of the 46-member Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC).

Iran has said it will not attend the summit because of Kuwaiti backing for Iraq in the Gulf war and two clandestine groups in Lebanon holding Western hostages — Islamic Jihad (holy war) and the Revolutionary Justice Organisation — have threatened action if the meeting goes ahead.

On Saturday, armoured cars were deployed outside the 99 acre (44 hectare) palace grounds, which are surrounded by a three kilometre long fortress-like wall.

Razor wire, concrete and metal barriers and electronic surveillance equipment provide additional protection.

OIC officials have said the meeting will be held as planned.

Shultz 'will not abandon' Reagan despite 'Irangate'

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Fleeing his loyalty to President Ronald Reagan during trouble, Secretary of State George Shultz has said he expects to stay at his post "and hang around to help him."

At a news conference, Mr. Shultz said that despite their disagreement over shipping arms to Iran, he had a good relationship with the president and would not abandon him.

"I am a Reagan supporter. I've been a Reagan supporter for a long time...I think the president has accomplished really tremendous things," Mr. Shultz said.

"So right now he has some problems, that's a good time for me to hang around and help him." Mr. Shultz privately opposed the U.S. arms shipments to Iran and made his opposition known after the president's decision became known in November.

Testifying Wednesday before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, former Secretary of State Cyrus Vance suggested Mr. Shultz should have resigned.

Without mentioning Mr. Shultz by name, Mr. Vance said when a cabinet officer is overruled by a president on a matter of "core values" about which the cabinet member feels very deeply, "the secretary should resign."

ABU DHABI (Agencies) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak was quoted Saturday as saying Washington was so preoccupied with the Iran arms deal scandal that it won't reactivate the Middle East peace process.

"The U.S. administration is now busy with 'Irangate' and I don't think it has time to spare for Arab issues," Mr. Mubarak said in an interview published by the semi-official Al Itihad newspaper.

He also said that he was not contemplating a visit to Washington "until the Irangate comedy is over and the stand of

the U.S. administration clears."

The comments by the Egyptian leader, whose country is the only Arab country to have a peace treaty with Israel, appeared to confirm Arab media reports that the recent Mideast swing by U.S. envoy Richard Murphy was a failure.

Mr. Mubarak warned Washington of "dire consequences...because of loss of credibility" following the arms deal disclosures.

"I can now say the United States has totally lost credibility in the Arab region and maybe in the whole world," he said.

The president rejected the U.S.

argument that it had tried to encourage "moderates" in the Tehran government.

"These justifications are unacceptable and illogical...supporting the moderate elements? What elements? The moderates and the others have attacked the U.S. after the disclosure of the matter."

"I repeat, the deal was the worst that could ever be made."

Mr. Mubarak quoted unidentified European leaders as saying the United States has also lost credibility with them.

"Major efforts are now

(Continued on page 3)

Syrians take positions at Beirut airport

BEIRUT (R) — Syrian troops deployed at Beirut's international airport Saturday, reinforcing Lebanese security men in an apparent bid to deter artillery attacks.

Official sources said an unspecified number of soldiers took up positions at the entrance and other key areas of the airport, which lies in the city's Shiite Muslim southern suburbs.

"Their mission is to take part in facilitating movement of passengers," an official said.

Until Saturday, a Lebanese force backed by Syrian security men has supervised the arrival and departure of passengers.

The airport was closed for more than 10 hours when it was shelled

by unidentified gunmen nine days ago. A Middle East Airlines (MEA) Boeing 707 was gutted by fire.

Opposition leaders accused the hardline Falangist "Lebanese Forces" militia of having attacked the airport. The militia denied the charge.

Syrian officials in plainclothes took up their duties at the airport last July, when hundreds of Syrian commandos moved onto the streets of mainly Muslim west Beirut to help curb lawlessness.

Witnesses told Reuters they saw at least four steel-helmeted Syrian soldiers clutching Kalashnikov rifles at the main airport terminal.

A Lebanese police source, speaking on condition of

anonymity, said Syrian troops will also deploy in the next 48 hours along the 5-kilometre airport highway and all roads surrounding the facility.

There has been no official explanation of the move. But Beirut's pro-Syrian Ash Sharq daily said it was aimed at "preserving the airport's security and the passengers' safety."

The deployment followed the arrest of Mohammed Ali Hamadi in Frankfurt Tuesday when he arrived aboard a flight from Beirut.

He was charged as a suspect in the June 14, 1985, hijacking of a Tans World Airlines (TWA) plane flying from Athens to Rome.

Former Lebanese presidents discuss Gemayel-Assad rift

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese President Amin Gemayel consulted three former presidents, all Maronite Christians like himself, Saturday on moves to head his year-long rift with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, official sources said.

"I have great hope that the existing agreement among us will continue regarding the issues of internal reform and relations between Lebanon and Syria," elder statesman Camille Chamoun, 86, told reporters after the meeting.

Mr. Gemayel, Suleiman Franjeh and Charles Helon declined to comment and details of their discussions were not known, but the sources said further meetings were planned.

Mr. Gemayel has sent envoys shuttling back and forth between Beirut and Damascus over the past three weeks to try to end his quarrel with Mr. Assad and prepare for a summit meeting.

Relations between the two presidents have been icy since Mr. Gemayel turned down a Syrian-brokered peace plan for Lebanon last January.

Falangist politicians and militia leaders, including Mr. Chamoun, feared the accord would mean the loss of Falangist political prerogatives in favour of the Muslim majority and give Syria an unwarranted role in Lebanese

affairs.

Saturday's talks took place at a heavily-guarded army barracks at S m ar J heil in the Syrian-controlled Batroun region, 45 kilometres north of Beirut.

The barracks is near a line separating territory dominated by the pro-Syrian Franjeh and that held by the anti-Syrian Lebanese forces Christian militia led by Samir Geagea.

Mr. Franjeh, a close ally of Damascus, supported the still-born pact, signed by the three main Falangist and opposition militias, with some reservations on proposed political reforms.

He has been at odds with Mr. Gemayel's family since militiamen led by Mr. Geagea, then a lieutenant of the president's late brother Bashir, raided his summer quarters on June 13, 1978.

Mr. Franjeh's son Tony, his daughter-in-law and 30 other Franjeh loyalists were killed.

Mr. Geagea took over the Lebanese Forces in bloody street battles last January, ousting former militia chief Elie Hobeika, Falangist signatory to the Syrian-backed peace deal.

Mr. Franjeh has repeatedly called for Mr. Gemayel's resignation, referring to him contemptuously as the "sick head."

Waite pursues 2-track hostage mission in Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — British church envoy Terry Waite, in Beirut since Monday on a mission to free foreign hostages, said Saturday he was pleased that the captors of two Americans had sent photographs of them to a local newspaper.

"It is a very good sign that they are alive. I am pleased that there is this development," Mr. Waite said after colour photographs of Joseph Cicippio and Edward Tracy were delivered with no accompanying statement to an Nahr newspaper Friday night.

Responsibility for their kidnappings last autumn was claimed by the secret Revolutionary Justice Organisation, thought to be a pro-Iranian Shiite Muslim group.

The same group sent a message to an international news agency Friday night warning Kuwait not to host the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) summit due to start there in nine days' time.

Mr. Waite, continuing his talks with senior Lebanese religious and political leaders, met Sunni Muslim Education and Labour Minister Selim Hoss Saturday.

"We had a good discussion about the situation. Everyone I have met publicly on this visit has been totally concerned to have the problem of the hostages resolved," Mr. Waite told reporters.

On previous visits to Beirut, the Anglican Church envoy had

shrouded his activities in secrecy. This time he has kept some contacts secret while visiting Lebanese leaders in public.

"I have my reasons," he has explained. "My mission is in two parts, a public one and a private one. You are watching the public part. The other one has been quiet and will remain so."

Mr. Waite also had a 10-minute meeting at his Beirut hotel with Cicippio's Lebanese-born wife, Lilian Ghandour, who arrived clutching his photograph of her missing husband.

Cicippio, 56, an accountant at the hospital run by the American University of Beirut (AUB), was kidnapped on Sept. 12 last year. Tracy, a book salesman and poet, also 56, was seized exactly one month later.

In the photographs, both men were bearded, smiling and wearing tracksuits. They appeared in good health.

Mr. Waite gave no details of his talks with Mr. Hoss, a former prime minister and an ex-professor at AUB.

University staff have been a



Terry Waite

favourite target for Beirut kidnappers. Thomas Sutherland, 54, one of seven Americans missing, was AUB's agriculture faculty dean when abducted in June 1985.

Mr. Waite, lay aide to Britain's Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie, Friday met a leading Shiite religious figure, Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah, widely seen as the spiritual guide of the pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God).

Both said later they had agreed that the hostage problem should be dealt with on a humanitarian basis.

Twenty foreigners are missing in Lebanon, apparently held by radical groups.

Suspect held for murder of Al Faruqi

CHELSEHAM, Pennsylvania (AP) — A man identified as a black Muslim was arrested Saturday in the fatal stabbing of an internationally known Islamic scholar and his wife, but authorities said they had no motive in the slayings.

Joseph Louis Young was arrested Friday at a city jail, where he was being held on aggravated assault charges in another case, police said.

He was charged with using a 38-cm survival knife to murder Isma'il Al Faruqi, 65, a Palestinian rights activist, and his American-born wife, Lois, 59, on May 27 in the couple's home in suburban Wynnton, said Lt. Robert Krauser of the Cheltenham township police department.

He also was charged with stabbing the couple's pregnant daughter, who survived.

The arrest came on tip to a group offering \$50,000 for information leading to a conviction in the case, according to Jawad George, a Washington, D.C., attorney and coordinator of the Al Faruqi Memorial Fund.

George, who identified Young as a black Muslim, said the suspect had known the Al Faruqis and had been at their home previously.

Krauser declined to comment on George's statements.

At the time of the slaying, police and FBI officials said they were investigating whether politics was the motive, because little was taken from the couple's home and because of Al Faruqi's staunch Palestinian stands.

Al Faruqi, a religion professor at Temple University, where his wife also taught, was the last governor of the Galilee region before the United Nations created Israel in 1948.

Police said they believe Young acted alone.

George, however, when asked if politics played a role, said, "We're quite sure he's not just a common criminal. We believe he very well might have been acting in concert with others."

George said the tip came from a Philadelphia resident Tuesday, but he declined to provide further details.

"The police had been saying that if they had a suspect, they could pin it down," said George. "They had fingerprints, a sample of his hair, footprints and his blood. All they needed was a name."

"We gave them a name," he said.

Police said an intruder wearing a dark cap entered the Al Faruqi's home and was surprised in the kitchen by Mrs. Al Faruqi.

Upstairs, Al Faruqi was stabbed 13 times, the couple's pregnant daughter, Annmar Zein, 27, was stabbed six times. Her wounds required 200 stitches to close. The baby survived.

Another daughter and Mrs. Zein's 18-month-old son escaped unharmed by hiding in a closet during the attack.

Blackouts, high prices make life intolerable in Iran

By Scheherazade Faramarz

Associated Press

NICOSIA, Cyprus — Power blackouts, long lines and ration coupons are all part of everyday life in Iran after more than six years of war against Iraq, Tehran residents say.

The clergy-led government of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini has cut power up to 10 hours a day since Iraqi warplanes last month bombed the nation's two largest power plants. Fuel, oil and food are rationed.

"I'm sitting in the dark," said Parvaneh, a housewife in her mid-40s reached by telephone at her Tehran home one recent evening after 10 hours of a blackout. She spoke on condition she be identified only by her first name. "Life is very difficult. It's cold, and we don't have enough heating oil."

After repeated Iraqi bombings of Iranian oil installations, including export terminals in the Gulf, the government last September imposed limits of 30 liters (6.6 gallons) of gasoline per month for civilians. Iran's foreign-exchange earnings have declined with the fall in world oil

prices.

Monthly sheets of ration coupons sell for 100 rials (\$1.33) at mosques throughout the country. One sheet is allotted for each family member, and birth certificates are needed to establish identity.

Each numbered sheet contains coupons for chicken, cheese, sugar, meat, milk, eggs, rice and other foodstuffs. The numbers are read on state radio, telling families where, when and how much they can buy.

Only one kilogramme (2.2 pounds) a month of meat is the usual ration.

Naz, a 35-year-old mother of four, paints a gloomy picture of life for a Tehran housewife coping with shortages, high prices and a virtual absence of social life.

"I spend two hours in the morning queuing to buy chicken. Then it is time to go hunting for sugar, cheese or whatever else is needed. I have to spend an hour in the queue for each of them."

"Then it is time to go home and prepare lunch. Around 4 p.m., I set out on the food-hunting expedition again, looking around to find shops where I can get milk,

butter, eggs and so on.

"At the end of the day, there is no time left to do anything else. I would be too tired, a nervous wreck."

Residents have complained in telephone calls and letters that they barely manage on the monthly average wage of 40,000 rials — \$533 at the official rate but as low as \$50 on the black market.

Khosrow, a government worker supporting a family of five on the average wage, said they ate mostly bread and cheese. To live comfortably would require several times the average wage, residents said.

An alternative to shortages is the "bazaar azad," or free market, which is officially tolerated.

Rationed items are displayed only for a few hours on certain days of the week. The free market operates the rest of the time. But free-market rates are triple or more the coupon prices and have been soaring.

The coupon price for a kilo of meat (2.3 pounds) is 250 rials (\$3.33), compared with 4,000 rials (\$5.33) on the free market — four times the price a year ago. A kilogramme of sugar is 30

rials (less than 50 cents) by coupon, but 900 rials (\$12) on the open market. A year ago, it cost 500 rials (\$6.66).

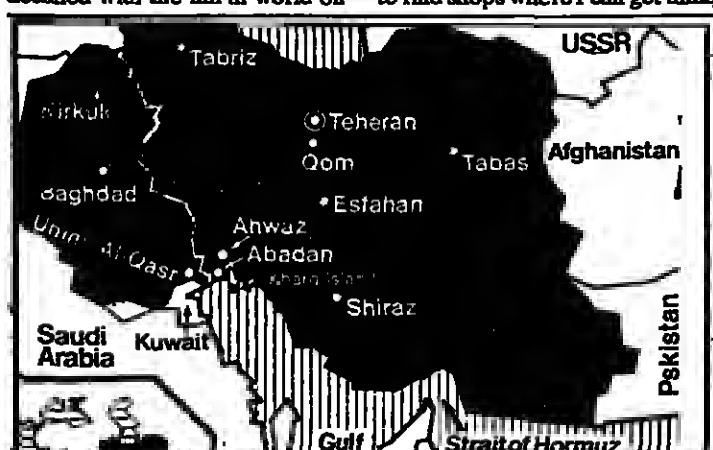
Rationed gasoline is 4,500 rials (\$60) just for the coupon, plus 900 rials (\$12) for every 30 liters (8 gallons).

A foreign diplomat said many embassy officials fly 1,300 kilometres weekly to the United Arab Emirates to buy meat and fresh fruits.

Iranians seeking better conditions or to avoid the war are allowed to leave the country, but they are not permitted to take money. More than a million are thought to have fled since the Islamic Revolution in 1979.

Mehrnaz, a 37-year-old employee for a state-owned company, left last fall because it was time for her 15-year-old son to register for conscription in the army at 18.

The U.N. High Commission for Refugees in Geneva said about 4,000 Iranians have registered annually as refugees in recent years. But most do not register, and sources in Geneva cited unconfirmed reports that about 400,000 were in Turkey alone.



1 killed in Iraqi attack on Iranian tanker in Gulf

BAHRAIN (R) — A crewman was killed and three injured when a missile struck an Iranian oil tanker in the Gulf earlier this week, Lloyds Shipping Intelligence said Saturday.

The previously unreported attack is thought to have been carried out by Iraqi jets as part of Baghdad's campaign to halt Iranian oil exports through the Gulf, shipping sources said.

The 4,440-tonne Tabriz, owned by the National Iranian Tanker Company, caught fire after the missile pierced a bunker tank on Jan. 12.

Fire-fighting tugs were able to save the vessel, which has now been towed to anchor off the United Arab Emirates port of Dubai.

The casualties reported by Lloyds, from its headquarters in Colchester, England, are the first known this year in the tanker war

between Iran and Iraq, which claimed the lives of more than 50 seamen in 1986.

There have been at least seven attacks since the turn of the year. Iran has hit four tankers using Kuwaiti ports, apparently singling out the emirate because of its backing for Baghdad in the six-year-old ground war.

Including the Tabriz, Iraq has attacked three tankers, all working the so-called "Iranian shuttle" by which Tehran's crude oil is ferried from the northern Gulf to the Strait of Hormuz where it is pumped into waiting export tankers.

The Tabriz had been damaged before. It was one of three ships hit when Iraqi jets flew a long-distance raid against Iran's Larak Island oil terminal in the southern Gulf in November last year.

Oman, Portugal to boost ties

BAHRAIN (R) — Portuguese Education and Culture Minister Joao De Deus Pinheiro arrived in Muscat for talks on strengthening cultural relations.

The official Omani News Agency quoted the minister as saying Portuguese-Omani ties

were deeply rooted.

Subjects for discussion would include cooperation on restoration of ancient fortresses in the Sultanate, some of which date back to Portuguese rule there in the 16th century.

Arrested dealers 'had Israeli permission' for weapons sales to Iran

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) — A group of Americans and Israelis arrested 10 months ago and charged with plotting to sell weapons to Iran had permission for the deal from the Israeli defence ministry, an Israeli arms dealer said Friday.

Yoel Leviatan, who was helping arrange a plan to sell U.S. weapons to Iran in 1985, spoke on Israel television about the case of retired Brig.-Gen. Avraham Bar-Am.

Bar-Am, a retired war hero, and 16 other people were arrested in April 1986 and charged with involvement in a planned \$2 billion arms sale to Iran, a violation of U.S. arms laws.

Leviatan said he was a middleman in the proposed deal and planned to request the U.S. arms from surpluses in Israel's stockpile once the deal was finalised. He was never charged in the case, and it was not clear why he came forward now.

Leviatan indicated to the television interviewer that he and other middlemen in the deal had U.S. permission for the sale.

"We demanded an okay from the Americans — from the Pentagon — and we explained that the deal depended on receiving Sibat permission and U.S. permission."

Sibat is the Israeli agency, part of the defence ministry, which is responsible for controlling and promoting all Israeli defence export activities.

Leviatan said he met with Sibat officials, including the agency's head Zvi Reuter, several times "at each phase" of the deal, and that the officials understood the arms were intended for Iran.

An Israeli spokesman reached by the Associated Press said he

could not comment on the Leviatan interview. But the ministry has previously denied that it knew anything about the Bar-Am case.

Leviatan holds a licence granted by the Israelis to sell arms and also is part-owner of a company called Promil which represents Argentinian arms manufacturers in Israel and sells cooling systems, Israel television said.

Leviatan said he was initially approached by Yisrael and Guni Eisenberg, Israeli insurance agents, to be involved in the deal. The Eisenbergs, he said, were working on behalf of American William Northrop. Both the Eisenbergs and Northrop were arrested at the same time as Bar-Am.

Leviatan said he did not realise at first that the weapons were intended for Iran, and the Eisenbergs did not immediately tell him.

"I asked who the buyers were. He said a British firm is buying on behalf of what he thinks is South America, but he's not sure which country. Either South America or West Africa," Leviatan said.

It was not until they discussed which types of weapons were involved that Leviatan began to suspect the weapons were intended for Iran. "He demanded large quantities that indicated a country at war... We suspected it was either Iran or Iraq," Leviatan said.

Knowing that Iraq uses primarily Soviet-made weapons while Iran uses U.S.-made arms, Leviatan realised the armaments were intended for Iran "the moment he (Eisenberg) insisted on American equipment and in those quantities," he said.

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15:45 Soccer: Brazil vs. W. Germany
15:50 Local Agricultural programme
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16:05 Local programme
16:10 Programme review
16:15 News in Arabic
16:20 Arabesque
16:25 Local programme
16:30 Tomorrow's programme
16:35 TV Magazine (local)
16:40 News summary in Arabic
16:45 Arabesque
16:50 Close down

PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 Les 5 dernières
17:35 News in French
17:40 La valise des perles
17:45 News in Hebrew
17:50 Varieties
17:55 News in Arabic
18:00 Who's the Boss
18:05 The Day the Universe Changed (documentary)
18:10 News in English
18:15 Murder, She Wrote

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz AM & 99 MHz FM & partly on 95.0 KHz SW

Tel. 77411-19

7:00

Light Music

7:30 News Bulletin

8:00 Morning Show

8:30 News Summary

9:00 Pop Session

9:30 In Concert

10:00 News Summary

10:30 Pop Talk

11:00 News Summary

11:30 News Summary

12:00 News Summary

12:30 News Summary

13:00 News Summary

13:30 News Summary

14:00 News Summary

14:30 News Summary

15:00 News Summary

15:30 News Summary

16:00 News Summary

16:30 News Summary

17:00 News Summary

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* A painting exhibition entitled: "On the Banks of Jordan" at the Jordan National Gallery, Jabal Lweibidh (until Jan. 23).

* An exhibition of photographs entitled "La Ville" at the French Cultural Centre (until Jan. 29).

* An art exhibition by Sa'ad Ali at the Housing Bank Centre Gallery.

* An exhibition of paintings by Ali Amman at the Arts Art Gallery, Amman, First Circle (until Jan. 19).

* An exhibition of folkloric dolls by Syrian artist Umama Almy at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Jan. 23).

FRENCH CINEMA

* 18:15: "J'ai épousé une ombre"

20:30: "Marche à l'ombre"

22:30: "L'Amour par terre"

Today Sunday at the French Cultural Centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267

American Centre 644371

American Centre Library 641520

British Council 651478

French Cultural Centre 637009

Goethe Institute 641993

Soviet Cultural Centre 644203

Spanish Cultural Centre 640409

Turkish Cultural Centre 639777

Haya Arts Centre 665195

Hussein Youth City 667181/6

Y.W.C.A. 641793

Amman Municipal Library 637111

University of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and

costumes over 100 years old. Also

mosics from Madaba and Jerash (4th

to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre,

Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5

p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an

excellent collection of the antiquities of

Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Chapel Hill).

Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.

(Fridays and official holidays) 10.00 a.m.

4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lime Amman Club. Meetings every

first and third Wednesday at the

Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.

Lime Philadelphia Club. Meetings

every second and fourth Wednesday at

the Amman Hotel, 7.30 p.m.

Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings

every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn,

1.30 p.m.

Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday

at the International Hotel, 2.00 p.m.

Royal Automobile Club, Jabal Amman.

Eight Circle. Tel. 815261, 981410.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic)

Jabal Amman, Tel. 624590.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman

Catholic) Jabal Lweibidh, Tel.

1940.

De la Saide Church (Roman Catholic)

Jabal Hussein, Tel. 661757.

Terrace Church (Roman Catholic),

Jabal Lweibidh, mass in Italian

language, meet every Saturday at 5.30

p.m., Tel. 622366.

Church of the Annunciation (Greek

Orthodox) Abdal, Tel. 623541.

Anglican Church (Church of the

Redeemer) Jabal Amman, Tel. 678906.

Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh,

Tel. 771331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh,

Tel. 775261.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox)

Ashrafieh, Tel. 771751.

Armenian International Church

(Inter-denominational): meets at the

April 18, 1987

NEWS IN BRIEF

Prince Mohammad condole Serhan tribes

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, the personal representative of His Majesty King Hussein, Saturday deputed the director of his office Turki Al Khreisha to convey condolences to Al Serhan tribes in Mafrqa on the death of Major General Atallah Ghasseb. The late Maj.-Gen. Ghasseb, 54, was a prominent army officer.

Airline donates blankets to the needy

AMMAN (Petra) — The Royal Jordanian airline has donated 16,000 blankets to needy and old people in Jordan and the blankets will be distributed through the Ministry of Labour and Social Development. A spokesman for the ministry said that the donation was received on Saturday and will be distributed to homes for the old, orphans and needy persons in the country. The spokesman voiced appreciation to the national airline for the humanitarian gesture and be praised the carrier for its contributions to the development of Jordan in various fields.

JNRCS okays JD 40,391 budget

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) on Saturday endorsed a JD 40,391 budget for 1987 and approved a general report on last year's activities and programmes. The budget allocation, which registers an increase of nearly JD 2,000 over that of last year, will be used to carry out the society's various activities. During its meeting, the JNRCS assembly re-elected Dr. Ahmad Abu Qoura to serve as board director for the coming year and elected Mrs. Margaret Qattan as deputy director.

Dakhqa fixes taxi fares to airport

AMMAN (Petra) — Taxis which transport tourists or other passengers from their hotels in Amman to the Queen Alia International Airport will charge JD 5 for the trip if no meters are installed in their cars, according to instructions issued Saturday by Minister of Transport Ahmad Dakhqa. According to the instructions, taxis will charge according to meter readings with the addition of JD 1 for the trip from Amman or other towns to the airport. Also, 250 fils will be charged for every bag in excess of one large suitcase.

Committee to campaign for Iraq

SALT (Petra) — The Balqa Governorate people's committee for supporting Iraq met at Fuhais municipality on Saturday with representatives of the economic, social and voluntary sectors in Fuhais and Mahes attending the discussions. The committee discussed means of rendering financial and moral support to Iraq and also decided to organise a campaign to collect donations for this purpose from the various sectors in the two towns.

Foundation to review Arab atlas project

AMMAN (Petra) — Association of Arab Universities (AAU) President Mohammad Faraj Dugheim on Saturday left for Iraq to take part in the meetings of the Arab World atlas foundation which will open in Baghdad on Monday. The three-day meetings will discuss, among other topics, the progress made in the Arab World atlas project as well as the foundation's plan of action for 1987.

UDD-director leaves for Sweden

AMMAN (Petra) — Director General of the Urban Development Department (UDD), Dr. Hisham Al Zaghra, left for Sweden on Saturday to take part in a symposium on the employment of modern technology in the execution of urban and regional development projects. Taking part in the symposium, due to open on Sunday, are scientists, technicians and planners from around the world.

French magician entertains all

AMMAN (J.T.) — In cooperation with the French Cultural Centre, the Amra Hotel has presented a series of shows by the famous French magician, Mr. Jacques Delord, who performed an entertaining show at the Jericho room of the hotel. Mr. Delord is a well-known magician in France and throughout Europe. He is performing in Jordan for the first time and is looking forward to returning. His last performance is Sunday at the hotel.

AMPCO breaks into French and Scandinavian markets

AMMAN (J.T.) — A French firm has signed a contract with the Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company of Jordan (AMPCO) to market Jordanian agricultural products in France, Belgium and Scandinavian countries.

AMPCO Director General Ghazi Abu Hassan said that the six-month contract is part of the company's drive to market national crops in countries of the European Community.

AMPCO earlier signed similar contracts for marketing vegetables in Britain and West Germany via the Royal Jordanian airline. Mr. Abu Hassan said. He said that several shipments of Jordanian products have already been made on Royal Jordanian aircraft, adding that AMPCO will soon start exporting via the Red Sea port of Aqaba on board vessels equipped for carrying fruits and vegetables.

In addition, AMPCO sent 32,000 tonnes of produce to Kuwait last year and is continuing to sell products to various Arab countries, mainly Syria which imports Jordanian tomatoes, lemons, squash and eggplants, Mr. Abu Hassan said.

According to Mr. Abu Hassan, AMPCO is facing competition from Portugal, Spain and Turkey in its attempts to market products in Europe.

Hmoud to visit agricultural projects in southern Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud will today make an inspection tour of agricultural projects in the southern regions of the Kingdom and will also take part in tree planting celebrations to be held there. The minister, who will be accompanied by his under secretary Dr. Salem Al Lawzi, and senior ministry officials, will be visiting Qatraneh and Ma'in.

In Irbid, in the north of the country, the Department of Agriculture said on Saturday that a total of 248,000 forest saplings were planted in Irbid Governorate during the current agricultural season.

The department's director, Dr. Noureddin Al Shubul, said that his department distributed 120,000 tree saplings to citizens free of charge to be planted on their land at their convenience. He said that the department is in charge of 147,128 dunums of forest land and 24,981 dunums of pasture land in the Irbid region.

Zarqa to plant 196,000 fruit and forest trees

In Zarqa, the Agriculture Department said a total of 46,000 fruit tree saplings and 150,000 forest trees will be planted in the Zarqa region in the current season. The greatest single area of land to be planted with trees lies around the newly-opened Khirbet Al Samra wastewater treatment plant. Other areas to be planted with trees are in Azraq and around Zarqa and Ruseifa.

The department said. More than 15,000 forest and fruit trees were distributed to citizens free of charge to be planted in Ruseifa, Birein, Bal'ama and Zarqa.

Hawamdeh to head delegation to talks on Arab contracting

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will be taking part in the second conference of the Arab Contractors Federation, due to open in Casablanca on Monday. Minister of Public Works Mahmoud Al Hawamdeh said on Saturday.

Mr. Hawamdeh, who is leading Jordan's delegation to the conference, said that the three-day gathering will discuss a request by the Egyptian Contractors' Union, to join the federation and will also review the federation's future programmes.

GUUVs appeals for funds to run literacy centres in West Bank

AMMAN (Petra) — A higher committee formed by the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUUVs) has appealed to citizens and organisations to offer more contributions to support an adult education programme in the occupied Arab territories.

The committee said that financial help is urgently required to maintain 215 centres offering education to illiterate men and women in the governorates of Arab Jerusalem, Nablus, and Hebron on the occupied West Bank. The total cost of keeping these centres running is estimated at JD 100,000 annually, and most of the contributions now come from GUUVs, the committee said.

The committee appealed to all social and economic organisations in the East and the West Banks to contribute generously to the humanitarian cause of giving basic education to adult people who missed proper education at an earlier age.

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Jordan, Egypt draw up new accords on tourism and marketing

AMMAN (Petra) — A five-day visit to Egypt by a delegation from the Tourism Authority, led by its director Nasri Atallah, has resulted in new agreements on carrying out joint tourism projects.

Mr. Atallah, who returned to Amman on Saturday at the end of the visit, said that his talks with Egyptian officials led to agreement on setting up a joint Egyptian-Jordanian work group which will prepare feasibility studies on tourist investment projects to be undertaken by both countries.

The two sides decided to organise a joint variety show in March at the Berlin International Fair where they will present performances by folk troupes from Egypt and Jordan. They also agreed to take a joint pavilion at the Tokyo International Fair, due to be held in November, and to issue joint tourist pamphlets featuring Jordanian and Egyptian tourist attractions, in addition to posters in a number of languages highlighting tourist sites in the two countries, Mr. Atallah continued.

He said that the talks were conducted through a joint Jordanian-Egyptian tourist committee which ended its meetings in Cairo on Thursday.

The next committee meeting, Mr. Atallah said, will be held in Amman just before convening the Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee meeting.

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Jordan's fuel bill hits \$600m mark for 1986

Experts call for measures to rationalise energy consumption

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan's bill for fuel oil last year amounted to \$600 million and is expected to rise in the coming years due to the economic and social growth in the Kingdom, Dr. Ibrahim Badran, under secretary of the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, said here Saturday.

He said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that urgent measures should be taken to help reduce the fuel bill and that this should go hand in hand with concerted efforts to find alternative sources of energy and to rationalise fuel consumption.

The oil bill is a major factor in Jordan's balance of payments and for this reason solar and wind energy and the energy produced from shale should be fully exploited, Dr. Badran continued.

Ministry of Energy studies show that nearly 90 per cent of Jordan's export earnings are soaked up by the oil purchases, which come mainly from Saudi Arabia.

Dr. Badran said that Jordan is one of the countries in the world with limited sources of energy resources that can be exploited on a commercial basis and therefore comprehensive national energy saving programmes should be launched.

Dr. Ali Anani, director of the renewable energy department at the Ministry of Energy, said that since Jordan enjoys sunny days for most of the year, solar energy can be exploited to save the traditional forms of energy and oil fuel.

He said that of the 350,000 homes in Jordan which use electricity, 20 per cent have installed solar heaters to save power. At least 70,000 solar heaters are now installed in Jordanian homes, but this figure is expected to rise to 250,000 by the year 1995 — nearly covering 50 per cent of Jordanian homes, Dr. Anani continued.

In view of the importance of solar heaters to Jordan, greater and more efforts should be made to improve the production of solar heaters which could, in the long run, contribute to the energy saving programmes in the country, Dr. Anani added.

For this reason, he said, the Ministry of Energy in cooperation with the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) and the Ministry of Industry and Trade, has prepared an Arab-Jordanian set of specifications on solar heaters to help factories and producers and has also imported a solar heater simulator which can measure the heaters' efficiency.

Dr. Anani said that the all locally produced solar heaters are being tested at the RSS' energy department and that the Ministry of Energy is conducting regular training courses and holding seminars on the manufacture of solar heaters. A study prepared by the RSS has revealed that an

average family's needs of hot water is estimated to cost them JD 178.5 annually if electricity is used and JD 51 if diesel oil is used and JD 30.3 if solar heaters are used, Dr. Anani continued.

Referring to the exploitation of wind power, Dr. Anani said that experimental tests are underway, adding that power created from both the sun and the wind could be used in remote regions which are not supplied with electricity. He said that a pilot station for exploiting wind power has been built at Jurf Al Darawish to pump water and that similar stations have been set up at Omari and Jafr in the desert regions of Jordan and at Qureiqzeh, some 15 kilometres north of Aqaba. Initial results from these stations have been encouraging, he continued. Dr. Anani went on to say that a major experimental project will be carried out by the Ministry of Energy and the RSS at Ras Munif in northern Jordan during this year.

Interviewed by Petra, Mr. Mohammad Abu Ajamieh, who is advisor to the minister of energy and mineral resources, said that Jordan has an estimated reserve of 45 billion tonnes of good quality shale which could yield oil at the rate of 10 per cent and that this could supply Jordan's energy needs for hundreds of years. He said that studies are underway and tests on the shale are being carried out in China and West Germany to determine the most profitable way of exploiting the oil shale reserves in Jordan.

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Bumper bunch of French and British films

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Tales of adventure in a world of politics and crime, conflicts of love and hate, danger and suspense, and a fantastic journey into space and time are some of the themes in a series of French films which began Saturday night and continue until Thursday.

The French Cultural Centre has once again brought several successful films to entertain the public. The films, which are being screened at the Concorde Cinema, are a varied selection to suit the tastes of children, youth and adults.

On Saturday night there were three films, kicking off with "Souvenirs, Souvenirs" — a movie enjoyed by youth because it portrays the rock and roll era in France in the 1960s. Director Ariel Zeitoun's feature takes one into Paris' music world during that period. It is the story of two brothers, each living in a different world, and the movie shows how they both develop and grow against the rhythm of rock and roll.

Power of the press

"The Fourth Power" is the power of the press and the title of the second film screened Saturday. Yves is a famous reporter for a daily newspaper. He had a previous love affair with Catherine — a star TV newscaster. They come together again after she discovers that Yves' capture and release as a hostage was connected to the prime minister's involvement in a political assassination. Serge Leroy's movie explores a conflict of ethics over whether the public should know about this scandal or not.

The late performance Saturday night was Michel Blanc's "Walk in the Shadow". Francois, a musician, decides to travel the world instead of earning a living behind popular singers. He and his friend, Denis, set off to experience an adventure that takes them all the way to the United States.

Tonight at 6:15 is "I got Married to a Shadow", directed by Robin Davis. This is the story of a pregnant woman, Helen, who is deserted by her husband. After a disaster her life changes and she lives under a false identity. But someone knows this and makes Helen's life frightening and difficult.

At 8:30 is another re-run of "Walk in the Shadow" for those who missed the first performance. At 10:30 is Jacques Rivette's "Love on the Floor" about two young actresses, Charlotte and Emily are best friends and allies until they meet a strange person. Paul. His presence makes the two girls experience a transitional phase in their relationship.

Cartoon for children

There is a special French cartoon film for children on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 4 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre. "The secret of the Selenites" is found on the moon. The Baron de Munchausen sets off on a fantastic flight to the moon in 1787 to discover the secret of the inhabitants of the planet. After an adventure in space with his friends, the Baron and his team land in the Kingdom of the Selenites. They become allies with the citizens of the moon and help them combat their enemies, the Verpess. The animated film is directed by Jean Image. The films are all subtitled in English, except for the cartoon, which is in Arabic. Tickets can be obtained from the Concorde cinema and at the French Cultural Centre.

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Over the last few years, the British film industry, after a long period of creative dormancy, has sprung to life producing a series of highly acclaimed films, some of which can be seen this week at the British Council. Dating from 1980 and later, these films include the Oscar-winning "The Killing Fields". But starting British Film Week off on Tuesday Jan. 24 is Gavin Millar's "Dreamchild". Hailed by Ian Johnston of the Sunday Times as "brilliant", this charming film is a story of reconciliation. It traces an old lady's coming to terms with a love of the man, so many years before, who immortalised her as "Alice" in his story "Alice in Wonderland." While in New York about to receive an honorary degree, Mrs. Alice Hargreaves, now 80 years old, allows herself to reminisce upon the golden days of the summer of 1862 when the Reverend Charles Dodgson, alias Lewis Carroll, told her stories about the Mad Hatter's teaparty, about a pipe smoking caterpillar, about a grumpy and a mock turtle, characters brought to life in the film imminently by Jim Henson of Muppet fame.

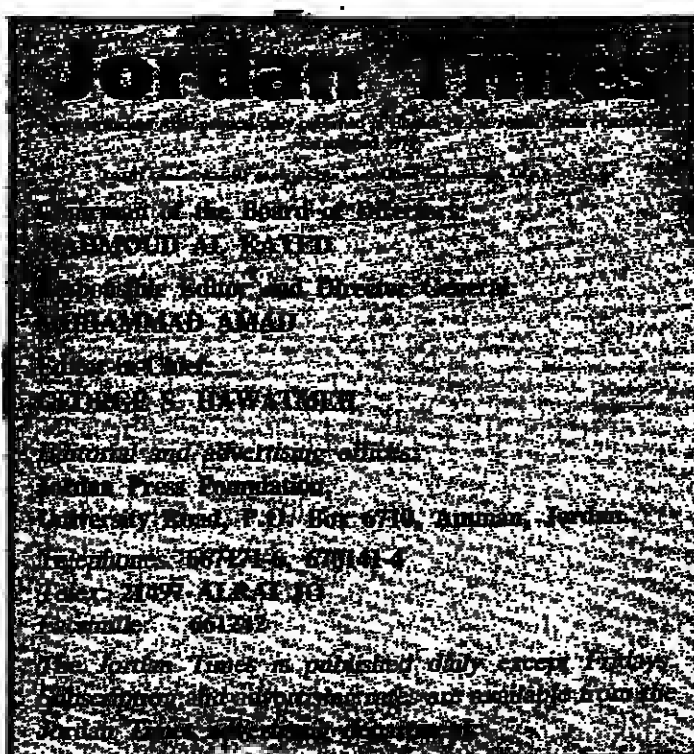
Showing on Wednesday, Jan. 25 is a remarkable film by David Lynch — "The Elephant Man". This strange and macabre story of a man, so grossly deformed that he is used as a side-show freak, is held together by magnificent performances by both Anthony Hopkins and John Hurt. Hopkins plays Treves, the ambitious young surgeon who rescues and rehabilitates the sensitive and intelligent, John Merrick, the Elephant Man, but who cannot ultimately protect him from the cruel curiosity of the world — whether it be rich or poor,

educated or uneducated — which finally kills him.

"The Killing Fields" is a complex story of war and friendship set in strife torn Cambodia of the early 1970's. After being helped repeatedly by his guide and interpreter, Dith Pran, to get his stories and to escape from increasingly hazardous situations, the New York Times correspondent, Sydney Schanberg is finally forced to leave the country and his friend behind. After many years of intolerable hardship in the war stricken country Pran is finally reunited with Schanberg. Studded with many fine performances this very moving film was the winner of three Oscars.

Of all the British films to be shown at the British Council this week, the most British of all has to be Alan Bridges' "The Shooting Party". Set in Edwardian England, this film with its brilliant cast that includes James Mason, Sir John Gielgud, Edward Fox, Dorothy Tutin, Robert Hardy to name but a few is a "charming and perceptive essay on the loves and games of the aristocracy" with its stunning on-location photography and remarkable performances it is a film not to be missed.

The week ends with a witty spy thriller starring Ian Holm, Helen Mirren and Nigel Havers. "Soft Targets" is a story of mistaken identity, of fun and farce interlarded, as is all good comedy, with moments of poignancy. With fine performances from its all British cast and with its glimpses of the "dazzling life of London's young socialites," "Soft Targets" should bring the British Film



The missing initiative

IN PAST years, deep-seated ideological differences induced strategic challenges between the two superpowers at the global level. Through a series of action-reaction responses, helped on by periodic technological breakthroughs, the superpowers raced ahead in building up huge nuclear arsenals, enough to annihilate the world several times over.

The nuclear arms race undoubtedly remains the symbol of danger of a nuclear war. However, the superpower relationship today is not what it was in the 50s and 60s. They recognise full well that their survival and security are contingent on their willingness to cooperate with each other. Since both agree that a nuclear war cannot be fought and won by any side, there is no reason why they should not systematically try to effect balanced nuclear arms reduction and eliminate, if possible, all nuclear weapons from the face of the earth.

A gradual reversal of the nuclear arms race is a forward movement towards the goal of universal peace and security for all. So, will the superpowers come to accept the programme of nuclear arms reduction as a challenge? The world intently watches their performance in trying to effect a downward spiral in the nuclear arms race.

In sharp contrast to the recent U.S. decision to break out of the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT-II) of 1979 and the subsequent deployment of B-52 bombers, armed with cruise missiles, in Western Europe, Moscow has decided to abide by that treaty which allowed each side to possess a maximum of 1,320 strategic ballistic missile launchers. The Soviet decision bodes well for the world for it should be recognised that the Soviets have disconnected another link in the action-reaction phenomenon of the nuclear arms race. Earlier, as a significant measure towards nuclear arms control, the Soviets declared a unilateral moratorium on underground nuclear tests which was to be effective until January 1, 1987. In response to this, the U.S. has continued to conduct nuclear tests on various grounds, such as: "To maintain the confidence in America's existing nuclear weapons stockpile; to ensure that necessary military hardware can survive well enough against any potential Soviet nuclear attack; to incorporate the most modern and most capable safety and security systems into modernised nuclear weapons; to avoid technological surprise, due to the inability to know in detail of new nuclear weapons developments in the Soviet Union." These could be suspected as nothing but alibis in order to continue the dangerous nuclear game over which the world has great apprehension.

We can surmise that the Soviets are capable of producing similar alibis in order to maintain the momentum of their nuclear weapons production programmes. But, the Soviets seem to be self-assured and to have scored points in adhering to SALT II and observing the unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests. What is to be noted — and therein lies the difference between the two superpowers — is that, while the Soviets have adopted nuclear disarmament as a national policy, to be gradually implemented by the turn of the century, the U.S. has been working at an ambivalent policy of making nuclear weapons obsolete by trying to construct a nuclear defence shield in space. The European allies, and others too, are rather sceptical about its success. The world expects that the U.S. should wrench the disarmament peace initiative from the Soviet Union. For this, it may require that the U.S. consider enunciating more viable arms control-disarmament proposals than its space-based defence programme.

The current round of talks that opened in Geneva earlier this week is a good opportunity to build on what has been accomplished already and to open new avenues for breakthroughs. The chance that exists today for reaching agreements between the two superpowers may have never been as good in the past several years; and it may not be better for years to come.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Hopes for peace

IN the talks which King Hussein held with Italian leaders, the need for a settlement for the Middle East question was underlined; and the monarch made it clear that the peace process should not be allowed to stall only because of Israel's intransigence and that the aggressors should not be allowed to force capitulation on the Arabs. If the European Community is convinced of the need to move ahead with initiatives to end the Arab-Israeli conflict and bring about a peace to the region, then it will be helping the world to avoid a new dangerous explosion. If Europe succeeds now in rallying world nations' support for the idea of an international conference that would bring an end to the problem, the Europeans would gain more and more credibility and the whole international community would stand in gain from such endeavour. King Hussein's views presented to the Italian leaders were met with interest and understanding, a success he has achieved also in Paris in his meetings with French leaders.

Al Dustour: King rallies Italy for peace

KING Hussein who is now in the second stage of his European tour said that the strong friendly relations between Jordan and Italy find their roots in history, common values and culture and the aspirations of the Arabs and the Italians for peace, stability and security. The Arabs in general and Jordan in particular appreciate Italy's stands vis-a-vis Arab causes, and look to Rome for playing a major role in defusing tension in the Middle East and helping to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Arabs remember in particular Italy's role in issuing the European Community's 1980 declaration on the Middle East, which clearly reflected Europe's interest in seeing a just peace prevailing in the Middle East region. The Venice Declaration was in line with the Arab countries' orientation towards peace, and conforms to United Nations resolutions.

Sawt Al Shaab: Europe is for peace

KING Hussein said in an address delivered at a banquet in his honour in Rome that the European countries should take into consideration the strong links they have with the countries of the Middle East and their proximity to the region, and so help establish peace and security in it. The Mediterranean represents a water way for all the countries of Europe and the Middle East, and is regarded as a natural extension to both areas and therefore it is affected positively or negatively by the developments and events in Europe and the Middle East region. We therefore believe that countries on both sides of this great sea should cooperate and pool their efforts and their endeavours to prevent any outbreak of conflicts and hostilities to safeguard their interests. If Europe is keen on protecting its interests and its stability and security, it cannot stand idle and look on as the elements of war and instability continue to exist in our region. King Hussein has been urging the Europeans to take serious action to end this dangerous situation and to help bring peace to the Middle East.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Practical solutions for pressing problems

THE symposium on Arab external indebtedness which was held in Amman last week turned out to be one of the most important seminars organised in the Arab World. It was concluded by the issuance of a comprehensive programme and a clear set of policies and other recommendations put forward to Arab governments to deal with the problem of foreign debts.

The press release issued following the conclusion of the two working days created some waves, and certain recommendations were later deleted due to lack of consensus. These included one on democracy and one on a more liberal and free press which were thought by some participants to be instrumental in combating corruption and mismanagement of public funds. Some participants thought that democracy and freedom of the press were irrelevant to the problems of indebtedness and capital flight in the Arab World and as such they should not be included in the recommendations.

Four research papers were presented covering: Protection of Arab investments abroad, Arab capital flight, facing the dilemma of Arab external indebtedness, and the international dimension of the foreign debts problem.

Few figures and statistics were employed in the working papers, or even in the discussions, as the stress was on policies and options rather than on quantities.

When 50 Arab scholars and decision-makers meet to discuss a hot subject, such as the issue of Arab external indebtedness, one does not expect a consensus to develop. The subject's peculiar circumstances, the degree of risk involved and the size of debt burden in various Arab countries are different, and so are the priorities, perspectives, and backgrounds of the participants themselves.

However, many policies and measures voiced during the seminar appeared to be acceptable to all schools of thought, and accordingly they may well constitute the starting point for everybody. Once a course of action starts in the right direction it is hoped that it will create a momentum of its own, and lead to subsequent steps. The urgent job now is to contain the problem, prevent further deterioration, and then embark on finding solutions.

It was agreed that Arab countries could be the safest place for at least part of Arab investments. However, it was acknowledged that there was much to be done by potential host countries in order to become credible and attractive places for Arab capital. Both public and private capital managers need to be convinced of the soundness of any investment before they could make a decision on it.

It was admitted that corruption was responsible for part of Arab private capital invested or deposited abroad. However, it was also acknowledged that the major part of Arab capital flight does not

simply involve hiding embezzled funds or illegal earnings. In most cases these were proper savings looking for safety and better economic returns. Hence was the seminar's two-fold recommendation: to combat corruption through the mechanisms of democracy, freedom of the press and promotion of accountability. This, it was felt, should be coupled by addressing and correcting the factors that contribute to capital flight such as huge budget deficits, unrealistic exchange rates, low or negative domestic interest rates, high inflation, and lack of stability and confidence in the soundness and effectiveness of internal financial, monetary and economic policies. Arab countries were therefore called upon to put their house in order and to create a climate of confidence in the present and future of their national economies.

External indebtedness for a developing country was found to be necessary and useful to fill the gap and complement domestic savings, provided it remained within certain safety limits. To this regard the participants were most forthcoming in their aggressive prescriptions, not only to face the indebtedness crisis but also to take precautions to avoid falling in traps that could come with it.

The Arab Thought Forum should be commended for organising an excellent seminar that produced practical solutions to a danger that is increasingly threatening the very independence and well-being of most non-oil Arab countries.

Pakistan uncertain how to react to Afghan peace drive

By Oliver Wates
Reuters

ISLAMABAD — Pakistan, uncertain how to interpret the Afghan new year peace offensive, is finding its position more and more awkward at the centre of conflicting interests, diplomats said.

On the one side, the Soviets and their Kabul allies have sent out a string of increasingly attractive signals, cooing many observers that a negotiated peace is at least possible.

The advantages of a settlement are underlined daily by growing friction on the border, internal sabotage in Pakistan's volatile frontier region, and ethnic violence in the south.

On the other side looms the

prospect that an end to the eight-year conflict would harden American hearts towards Pakistan, threatening the vital flow of U.S. aid.

Most important are the three million exiles, refugees who fled over the border after eight years of hardships, and the distrustful guerrillas, hardened by years of struggle.

When peace talks reopened in Geneva in a few weeks' time, the Pakistani delegation could find itself in effect negotiating on behalf of the rebels, with no mandate and limited influence over them, diplomats say.

Islamabad's first problem is what to make of the initiative, launched by Communist Party chief Najibullah with all the drive of his mentor, Soviet leader

Mikhail Gorbachev.

The Pakistani foreign ministry says it will put to the test in Geneva. "We regard it as an indication of a new trend — whether it is for propaganda purposes or for real will have to be tested by the negotiations," a spokesman said.

Pakistan officials said the key indicator will be the time-frame for withdrawal of the estimated 115,000 Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

Kabul has said it would be over four years, after the flow of outside supplies to the rebels is halted, while Pakistan insists that three to four months is enough.

"If they come up next time with a time-frame of three years, or even two years, they are not serious," one official said. "If they

start talking in months, they are."

The analysts and diplomatic Afghan-watchers in Islamabad say the time-frame question masks the real issue at stake — what kind of government the Soviet forces, who intervened in 1979, leave behind them.

The underlying assumption on both sides is that a long period for withdrawal would allow the Kremlin to subdue the Western-backed rebels, while a short time-frame would oblige it to seek compromise with them.

This latter option would inevitably involve negotiating the shape of an administration acceptable to both sides, which is beyond the scope of the Geneva talks.

Pakistan insists it can only discuss international aspects of the

conflict. But Najibullah's peace offers and pledges to give opposition figures a role in a broad-based coalition government have strengthened his hand before the next round of talks.

The U.N.-sponsored negotiations are due to resume on February 11, but informed sources said they are likely to be postponed to give the sides more time to prepare.

Meanwhile, Pakistan is hastily consulting its allies. In the past few days Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has been to China, Iran and Saudi Arabia, all strong backers of the Muslim guerrillas.

Further discussions are expected at the Islamic summit in Kuwait this month. The most important ally of all is

the United States and Under-Secretary of State Michael

Armacost is due to Islamabad on Sunday for a three-day visit. Pakistan is one of the main recipients of U.S. aid. A five-year package of \$3.2 billion expires this year and a new deal of \$4.02 billion has been agreed for the next six years.

Left-wing critics of Gen. Zia say he will never agree to an Afghan peace settlement as it would jeopardise the \$1.74 billion of military loans included in the new package.

"The problem is that these people (the government) are completely in the hands of the Americans," veteran left-wing politician Khan Wali Khan told Reuters. "Without this money, what will the government do?"

W. German economic achievements spell re-election for Kohl

By Anthony Williams
Reuters

BONN — West Germans, who have enjoyed four years of economic recovery under Chancellor Helmut Kohl, are expected to signal satisfaction with his strategy by returning him to office in the general election on January 25.

Elections here traditionally turn on economic policy and voters are showing clear support for Kohl's promises of four more years of the same conservative measures.

West Germany, which boasts one of the world's strongest currencies, this week accepted a further revaluation of the mark in a realignment of European currencies despite the risk of antagonising exporters and farmers.

Predicting the change would not hurt the economy, Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg said: "The strong mark is an international vote of confidence in Germany's economic policies."

Stoltenberg added he was sure West Germans would understand that Bonn had to put other considerations ahead of its concern to woo voters. Political analysts say most ordinary voters will look on the mark's increased strength as another sign of rising prosperity.

Kohl's government — virtually assured of re-election, according to opinion polls — plans to centre its future economic policies on a major reform of the fiscal system, including large-scale tax cuts which Stoltenberg hopes to pay for partially by slashing government subsidies.

West German successes in squeezing inflation out of the economy have resulted in rising affluence for Western Europe's industrial power-house.

Recent figures show West German purchasing power rose six per cent last year, the strongest increase since the 1960s, according to the federal statistics office.

Dresdner Bank commented in a report that: "The general prosperity of the population has increased markedly."

With more money in their pockets, West Germans went on a spending spree last year, buying a record number of new cars.

Inflation has been falling worldwide, not least because of slumping crude oil costs. But West Germany has been reporting negative inflation rates since April 1986, the first time in over 30 years that prices have actually fallen.

At the same time, the country will report a record surplus on foreign trade for 1986.

However, unemployment is a black cloud over Kohl's economic performance. The jobless rate stubbornly refuses to dip below two million, roughly 8.5 per cent, and the Social Democratic (SPD) opposition accuses the government of accepting "mass unemployment."

The SPD charges Kohl and government officials have overstated the prospects for future economic growth to win votes.

Its chancellor candidate, Johannes Rau, has pledged to halve the number of unemployed if elected. He said this could be achieved through an "active labour policy" aimed at creating 400,000 new jobs by 1989, reducing working hours and making additional public spending.

But the jobless number did fall modestly last year, the first decline since 1979. Officials report a strong rise in new jobs and add the jobless rolls have been swollen by many West Germans, especially women, returning to the labour market.

Another major bank, Commerzbank, said in a recent commentary that, among all industrial nations, West Germany was "cutting the best figure."

It attributed this partly to the resurgence of innovation in industry and in the services sectors but also to "sound fiscal and monetary policies."

Recent polls suggest a clear endorsement of these policies. Finance Minister Stoltenberg is regularly voted the second most popular politician in the country, after Social Democratic ex-chancellor Helmut Schmidt.

This despite, or maybe because of, his insistence on "frugal budgetary spending."

Germans still haunted by the spectre of the Weimar inflation of the 1920s are receptive to economic platforms emphasising the importance of "sound money."

The West German consumer, for example, is generally far more resistant to credit-card buying than European neighbours.

Stoltenberg's central aim in the government's first legislative period was to reduce federal deficits inherited from the previous SPD government which ruled in coalition with the Liberal Free Democrat (FDP) party.

New net government borrowing, roughly the equivalent of the budget deficit, is targeted at 22.3 billion marks (\$11.2 billion) for this year.

This compares with over 37 billion marks (\$18.5 billion) in 1982, when the FDP abandoned the SPD for Kohl's Christian Democratic Union and its Bavarian partner, the Christian Social Union.

The West German economy was in a recession at the time, but has since enjoyed four years of expansion. A further 12 months of economic growth are predicted.

There are, however, signs a slowdown in growth is on its way. Commerzbank wrote: "In 1983, there is a danger that the economy will run out of steam as the wave of investment ebbs."

And the government failed to achieve its three per cent target for growth in 1986. Provisional official figures show the economy expanded by only 2.5 per cent.

Officials reckon growth will continue at roughly the same rate this year, although one gloomy forecast from the Diw institute in West Berlin, predicts only 1.5 per cent.

Central America, at crossroads, gets peace push

By Phil Davison
Reuters

MEXICO CITY — The United Nations, Latin America and Europe are throwing their weight behind a new peace push for Central America amid concern that 1987 could see all-out war in the region.

The secretaries general of the United Nations and Organisation of American States (OAS) plan to join foreign ministers of eight Latin American nations in a regional tour starting this weekend aimed at forging a peace formula.

The January 17-20 mission was endorsed by the 31-member OAS last week despite reservations by the United States, the organisation's most influential member.

Washington is concerned the mission might lead to a settlement which does not meet U.S. objectives in leftist Nicaragua.

Assistant Secretary of State Elliott Abrams and U.S. Central America special envoy Philip Habib met Costa Rican Foreign Minister Madrigal Nieto in Miami last week to discuss the issue.

State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley said that Washington supported any initiative that led to "a genuine democratic" outcome in Nicaragua.

She said this could be achieved if the ruling Sandinistas began direct talks with the U.S.-backed contra rebels, which Managua has refused to do.

Most analysts and diplomats in the region expect Reagan to continue at least tightening the screws on Nicaragua during the remaining two years of his term.

Diplomats from the region and outside said a hard-line stance by Reagan could fuel militarisation and war psychosis, hampering regional efforts to develop a peace formula.

One European diplomat said

various contacts, such as a visit to Latin America by British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe this month, stemmed from concern in Europe over the effect of the Iran arms sales scandal on U.S. policy.

Political analysts believe the unauthorised diversion to the contras of proceeds from the arms sales could mean the end of the U.S. aid to the rebels.

Reagan now has two options, to hang tough and try even harder to remove the Sandinistas, or to soften up and opt for more economic pressure and diplomacy to remove the Nicaraguan thorn," said the diplomat, who asked not to be identified.

"It is concern that he may prefer the rambo option that makes urgent diplomacy necessary, by Contadora, the U.N., the OAS, Europe or whoever else cares about preventing a regional war," he added.

The so-called Rio Group, which is undertaking the mission, has received pledges of support from European nations including Britain, West Germany and Spain, which diplomats in the region said would carry out their own quiet diplomacy.

The Latin American nations taking part in the mission are the founding members of the Contadora group — Mexico, Panama, Venezuela and Colombia — formed nearly four years ago to try to negotiate peace in Central America, and those which later formed a support group, Peru, Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay.

One Latin American diplomat said the peace effort was focusing on three areas: Nicaragua's conflict with the contras, its border tensions with U.S. allies Honduras and Costa Rica, and the seven-year-old war in El Salvador between leftist guerrillas and the U.S.-backed government.

The Rio Group mission in-



"The polyps are benign, but you've got cancer in Nicaragua."

cludes all eight foreign ministers from the Contadora nations and the support group, U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, himself a Peruvian, and OAS Secretary-General Joao Clemente Baena Soares, from Brazil.

One problem the Rio Group faces is Nicaragua's complaint to the World Court in The Hague over the presence of contras in neighbouring Honduras and Costa Rica.

Both countries deny hosting contras and have said they will not cooperate with Contadora moves until Nicaragua drops the case.

Several times over the last few years, would-be peacemakers and Central American leaders have raised the possibility of stationing

an international peace-keeping force or observers along Nicaragua's borders.

Perez de Cuellar's presence in the Rio Group highlights the possibility that such a plan, perhaps using U.N. forces, could be seriously considered.

The worst problem facing the new peace delegation is likely to be the war in and around Nicaragua itself.

The peace moves have been given added urgency by the fact that new U.S. aid to the contras, totalling \$100 million, has begun reaching the front lines.

Military experts say they expect that when enough men, guns and bullets are in place, probably by spring, the contras will launch what could be their biggest operation yet.

New chief Zhao — the man who has made reforms work

By Graham Earnshaw
Reuters

PEKING — Premier Zhao Ziyang, the new acting chief of China's ruling Communist Party, is credited with having made the economic reform plans of top leader Deng Xiaoping work over the past six years.

Zhao, 67, was hand-picked by Deng for the premiership in 1980 and chosen by him again on Friday to take over as party chief from Deng's other chief protégé Hu Yaobang, who was removed from his post after being accused of committing political errors.

Hu and Zhao had been seen as equals under the leadership of Deng, but Hu's removal in the wake of nationwide demonstrations by students demanding more Western-style democracy has left Zhao as Deng's undisputed heir apparent.

Hu was a controversial figure in many ways — flamboyant in character, unpopular with the conservative hard-line wing of the party and outspoken on sensitive subjects.

Zhao is very different — a man who has impressed people with his quiet ability, his sophisticated handling of the economy and his performance on numerous foreign

visits.

His confident, genial manner and the panache of his smart Western suits have helped transform the popular media image of an inscrutable and forbidding China.

"He has the ability to be charming without giving up any of his positions," commented one U.S. official involved in negotiations with Peking over American arms sales to Taiwan.

Like so many others, Zhao was purged during chairman Mao's cultural revolution of the 1960s, but he made a name for himself in the late 1970s as party chief of the central province of Sichuan, pioneering liberal agriculture policies which were later implemented throughout the country following the rise to power of Zhao's mentor, Deng.

Zhao was born into a landlord family in central Henan province in 1919 (the exact date of birth is not known) and he joined the Communist Party at the age of 20.

After the Communist victory in 1949, Zhao rose to senior posts in the provincial party leadership, and just before he was purged in the cultural revolution, he was quoted as declaring:

"If we engage in production with capitalistic methods, we shall



Zhao Ziyang eventually embark on the wrong path."

Ironically, he was later to become the prime mover in Deng's efforts to make use of selected capitalist methods to help revitalise China's economy in the early 1980s.

After years in obscurity, Zhao reappeared in the early 1970s, and at Deng's suggestion was appointed as party chief in Sichuan province in 1975.

At the heart of Zhao's economic reforms was the then-controversial principle that incentives were needed to boost production, and the national press quoted a popular saying reminiscent of political jingles used by politicians in the West:

"If you want grain (Liang), ask Zhao Ziyang." He joined the ruling politburo

in 1979 and took over as premier the following year, replacing chairman Mao's chosen successor Hua Guofeng.

By late 1984, the ageing Deng was saying he had left Zhao and Hu in charge of day-to-day affairs.

Zhao has stressed repeatedly that China's present "open door" policy will not be changed, and is a strong supporter of Deng Xiaoping's reformist policies.

His speeches on the economy in recent years have been marked by their absence of political rhetoric and the increasing use of Western-style economic terminology.

He has travelled widely abroad in the past few years and has addressed the United Nations General Assembly for the first time in October 1985.

He has also travelled extensively in China, being frequently shown on the television chatting easily with peasants in his shirt-sleeves.

Western diplomats give him full marks in his handling of foreign affairs and the economy — his two primary responsibilities.

He has also benefitted during the recent crisis due to the fact that he has always refrained from pushing himself to the front in party matters.

مكتبة ابن خلدون

West German woman MP's nude-cartoon suit rejected

By Brigit Loff

A Berlin judge has rejected on a technicality an 80,000-mark damages claim against the Swiss-based Penthouse publishing company by Petra Kelly, a member of the Bonn Bundestag and one of Germany's most prominent Greens.

She had been featured in caricature, naked with her back and turned round head facing the viewer. Her right arm rested, wild-west fashion, on the butt of a Colt .45 sitting in a holster dangling from a black leather belt. She wore black stiletto-heeled boots. The drawing appeared in the "VIP Calendar" in March last year.

The issue before the court was: was this a matter of unlawful invasion of privacy or of artistic freedom?

Frau Kelly's counsel, Anne Klein, said it was not a case of seeing a good opportunity of collecting 80,000 marks. The money would be given to a charity for children with cancer.

She said Frau Kelly was not a "terrible prude." Nevertheless, she objected to the naked female

form being used for promotion purposes.

Frau Klein said it was "typical" that the calendar featured the portraits of 12 politicians, two of whom were women and that one of them was naked.

It was the purpose of a caricature to reveal the personal characteristics of a person and make them appear ridiculous through overdrawn.

The caricature was suggesting that Frau Kelly had used sex as a tool in politics. That was an untrue suggestion. She stood for non-violence and disarmament.

Penthouse's lawyer, Vera Movsessian, said the caricature had been drawn by a well-known artist, 34-year-old Ori Hofmekler. Its purpose had simply been to express the Greens' political ideas of "back to nature" and "off with the encumbrances of civilisation."

The Colt revolver was an attempt to capture the fighting character of the Greens. It had nothing to do with the problem of sex and power. On the contrary, it had everything to do with artistic licence.

Frau Kelly wanted nothing



Petra Kelly is no prude, says her lawyer

other than a set of rules to lay down what a cartoon should portray and to limit artistic licence. Frau Movsessian said there were only two women featured in the calendar for the simple reason that there were so few women in leading positions in politics. There weren't many as interesting as Frau Kelly and she should feel honoured to be drawn by such a famed cartoonist.

Others featured in the calendar, which was shown in court, included British Prime Minister

Margaret Thatcher with a football, short trousers and cellulitis on the thigh; President Reagan as the main in the whisky advertisement ("Ronnie Walker"); Bonn Defence Minister Manfred Wörner wrapped in a bath towel and using a tube of lipstick; and Bavarian Premier Franz Josef Strauss with a naked stomach and a band covering his private parts.

The court was told that 3,000 copies of the calendar had been produced and all members of Parliament in Bonn had received one as a present.

The judge, Gerhard Siebert, said there were legal precedents for saying that people in public life had to be prepared to expect a certain amount of fun to be poked at them. There had to be plenty of scope for freedom of opinion and artistic licence.

He rejected the plaintiff's claim however, not on these grounds, but because the suit had been addressed to the wrong people, an editor and a company within the Penthouse groups which had nothing to do with the production of the calendar — Frankfurter Rundschau.

British royalty aims at tourist market

By Stephen Lynas

LONDON — Princess Anne's husband Captain Mark Phillips is to give \$2,000-a-day shooting lessons to American tourists.

He is being used as the star attraction in a glossy new holiday scheme that cashes in on the American love for British status symbols and tradition.

The scheme, "A sporting week with the English gentry," promises a "totally exclusive experience" to those prepared to spend \$10,000 in only six days.

The holidays are to be run from Great Rissington Manor, a privately owned Cotswolds. A glossy green and gold brochure emphasises that it is close to Anne and Mark's home, Gatcombe Park.

On offer is a crash course in uppercrust British life, including hunting, racing and lessons on how to shoot everything from clay pigeons to real birds, including grouse and pheasant as well as hare.

The organisers believe that using Captain Phillips' name is such a publicity coup that they are offering refunds of \$2,000 if he does not attend the one-day clay pigeon shooting class.

Guests will be picked up from Heathrow Airport by chauffeur Range Rover and driven to a five-star hotel in the heart of the Cotswolds. On the first night they will sit down to a typical country dinner at Great Rissington, home of the Godman family which is running the scheme.

Day two, the only day involving Captain Phillips, will be spent at the Lady's Wood shooting school, where he will join full-time expert instructors to give advice on clay pigeon shooting and perhaps demonstrate his own skills.

But even tourists who have no interest in shooting, and who join the holiday for a mere \$5,000 on the basis that they will find other things to do, are to get \$1,000 reduction if they don't meet Captain Phillips.

For the sporting types, though, there follow two more days of shooting — pheasant, grouse, or hare, depending on the season. A "law meet" with either the Duke of Beaufort's hunt or the Heythrop Foxhounds promises

the "twilight vision of horses and riders, faces flushed red, spattered with mud, trotting wearily home down some country lane, a contented smile on their faces."

The sixth day will be spent at a National Hunt race meeting. Hugh Godman, a farmer whose parents live at Great Rissington Manor, has hired land out to shooting parties, including Americans, in the past.

He decided to launch his own holiday shoots through specialists Sporting International, of Houston, Texas.

Godman said, "If it works it will start in the middle of the year, but I have no comment to make about Captain Mark Phillips. These holidays will not be advertised in this country" — Observer.

'Vidasil' — the invention of the century?

By Dragan Milenkovic

IT was a strange duel, but nonetheless a typical one for modern times. The French inventor "Brenner" which, it was claimed, could burn any material and the Yugoslav invention — the thermoisolation material "Vidasil" were pitting their strength against one another at the World Innovations Exhibition — the Eureka Salon. The duel was the idea of the French inventor who convinced the jury that a direct testing of strength between the two strongest candidates for the Grand Prix would make a decision easier. He was right. The machine which can develop heat of over 6,000 degrees centigrade tried long and desperately to burn the eight centimetre thick piece of Vidasil but, finally, the machine itself disintegrated through its own heat and force.

This is how "Vidasil," the invention of the Yugoslav scientist Vida Popovic won the Grand Prix despite competition from 600

inventions from 20 countries and gave rise to great interest among world firms.

Vida Popovic is one of those rare factory directors who are also scientists. She returned to Yugoslavia with several offers of factories for this thermoisolation material, which, it was said in Brussels, was unique in technical processes demanding great heat resistance. The first concrete result of "Vidasil" is the success of the protocol signed in Brussels with the Chinese Corporation for Atomic Energy which wishes to build a "Vidasil" factory for its own requirements.

"Vidasil" is an extremely light material weighing between 220 and 270 kilograms per cubic metre. Its working resistance to heat is 1100 degrees centigrade. It can stand up to 3,000 volts and absorbs vibrations exceptionally well. Its basic component is hydrosilicate which is not affected by either acids or gases. The method of production of "Vidasil" is, for the present, the secret of Vida Popovic, who, it is

interesting to note, is the first woman ever to have received the Grand Prix at the Eureka Salon.

Vida Popovic's reception upon her return from Brussels was that usually reserved for film stars or sports aces. She was met by an army of journalists, photographers and television crews. The people who awaited her with greatest pleasure were, however, the inhabitants of the small village Leusici in central Serbia. It is there that Vida Popovic is director of the Kristal factory which already produces "Vidasil." Scores of workers and engineers, mainly young people employed in the factory, gave Vida Popovic an enthusiastic reception, saying that she had "been waging their common struggle" in Brussels.

The "Kristal" factory is also the work of the inventor of "Vidasil." It was Vida Popovic, an engineer of technology, who sought the resources for its construction from the Department for the Development of Science of the

Republic of Serbia, who created the programme and technology and determined the construction site. She decided on Leusici because of its large quartz deposits, necessary for the production of "Vidasil" and also on account of the understanding shown by the municipality of Gornji Milanovac, to which the village belongs. She says that even she herself was surprised at the trust and the speed with which her still nattered project was accepted.

The world award in Brussels is the best proof of the project's justification, and it is now necessary to exert all efforts to promote the production of this material.

At the moment "Kristal" produces five thousand cubic metres of "Vidasil" a year. Yugoslav requirements are assessed at some 30 thousand cubic metres. Many Yugoslav firms are interested in the construction of "Vidasil" factories, including "Avotekna" or Ljubljana, the owner of the patent and co-financier of the Kristal factory. Two "Vidasil" factories are expected to be constructed in 1987. In Yugoslavia, which will cover Yugoslav requirements and also produce for exports. The new "Vidasil" factories will be built by Yugoslav enterprises and will contain domestic technology. The new insulation material will improve working conditions and decrease costs in all branches of industry in which Vida Popovic's invention is used — Tanjug features.



LOOKING NEWBORN IN A FUGIOUS WIND, VERMONT STORE OWNER Dan Fraser stockpiles more than a hundred cords of firewood. In New England, as in the Rockies, Ozarks, and other heavily wooded regions, wood is a renewable and plentiful heat source. But it comes

with a price that goes beyond the per-cord cost. Wood smoke contains carbon monoxide, other noxious gases, and minuscule particles that rival cigarette smoke for virulence.

Aesthetically cozy wood fires pose threats to health

By Mercer Cross
National Geographic

DENVER — On a clear winter day in this mile-high city, you can see beyond the downtown skyscrapers to the low mountains of the Front Range, beyond them to the white caps of the 14,000-foot peaks of the Rocky Mountains, etched against the infinite azure of the western sky.

But chances are good that you won't even be able to see the foothills. They'll be lost behind the capital city's infamous "brown cloud," the smog layer that hovers 200 to 300 feet off the ground when weather conditions are right.

Causes lung diseases

It isn't just ugly, it's dangerous. Colorado is the nation's fourth-ranked state in deaths associated with chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases, according to figures compiled by the federal government. Such diseases include emphysema, chronic asthma, and chronic bronchitis.

Enter a new villain, unrecognised until the past few years: wood-burning stoves and fireplaces.

Cars remain the chief contributor to polluted air in Denver and most other cities. But it has been determined that as much as 18 per cent of the brown cloud over the six-county Denver metropolitan area of 1.5 million

people is caused by the residue from fires in an estimated 72,000 stoves and fireplace inserts and in 265,000 fireplaces.

The percentage of pollution from wood smoke is far greater in the narrow valleys of ski-resort towns in Colorado's high Rockies — towns such as Aspen, Telluride, Crested Butte, and Vail — and in New England winter resorts.

In Aspen, a town of 3,800 in a ski area that may grow to 30,000 at the height of the season, the 600-foot-thick cloud that engulfs the valley is blue, not brown, because it is 45 per cent wood smoke, says Lee Cassin, environmental health officer for both Aspen and Pitkin County.

Missoula, Montana, with a population of 65,000, is another city with a problem. When warm air traps pollution-filled cold air in the 3,100-foot-high valley where Missoula is located, "it's a box with a lid on it," says Jim Carlson, senior scientist with the city-county health department.

"It's against human nature for people to think they contribute individually to a problem," says Steve Walker of the Albuquerque, New Mexico, Environmental Health Department's Air Pollution Control Division. A laboratory study has found that the sources of that state capital's brown cloud are divided equally between motor vehicles and wood smoke.

Fumigating fog

"The thing I really worry

about," Walker says, "is that when you go through neighbourhoods at night, they're being fumigated with wood smoke. It reminds you of the fog in 'The 10 Commandments'."

The health dangers from that smoke are now well-known. Not only does it contain carbon monoxide and other noxious gases. It also contains minuscule particles, some of them as carcinogenic as cigarette smoke, that find their way into lungs. The problem is felt most acutely in population centres where altitude is high and temperatures are low.

Ironically, use of wood stoves took off during the oil crisis of the 1970s, when wood was touted as an environmentally sound, economical, renewable source of heat.

Although some authorities say the craze probably crested in the late '70s, there are still an estimated 12 million wood stoves in the United States, and 800,000 new ones are sold every year.

Health dangers and soaring wood costs notwithstanding, people continue to enjoy their wood fires. Robert Aukerman, a professor at Colorado State University, has conducted many studies on wood uses. Sixty per cent of Coloradoans burn wood for recreation, not heat alone, he says.

Moreover, he calculates that wood-burners are, in the long run, stripping the state of fuel faster than it can be replenished. "With the amount of wood removed each year in Colorado alone," he says,

"we could build a wall two feet wide and four feet tall from San Francisco to New York — and back again."

Governments at all levels are taking action against the recently recognised dangers of wood-caused pollution.

Resorts adopt restrictions

Aspen, Telluride, and other resort communities have adopted tough restrictions on the number of stoves and fireplaces. Missoula has mandatory no-burn days. Denver followed suit this fall, becoming the country's largest city to adopt a mandatory no-burn policy.

Only two states, Oregon and Colorado, have passed laws requiring strict pollution-control standards for new wood stoves. Oregon's law took effect July 1: Colorado's will become effective next Jan. 1.

After six months of negotiations by representatives of government, industry, and environmental groups, on Jan. 1 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will announce nationwide certification regulations for wood stoves and fireplace inserts.

The new, two-phase rules, to begin on July 1, 1988, will reduce wood-fire particulate emissions more than 70 per cent in the fifth year and result in net savings to the wood-burning public of \$29 million a year, EPA officials predict.

From colliding spirals to infrared galaxies to quasars

By Lee Siegel
The Associated Press

PASADENA, California — Scientists say they have identified a key stage in the birth of quasars, the universe's brightest objects: collisions of spiral-shaped galaxies that form star systems emitting little visible light.

"We think we're seeing quasars in the early stages of formation," David Sanders, an astrophysicist at the California Institute of Technology, said on Jan. 8.

The star systems, which are known as infrared galaxies, "appear to have all the characteristics of quasars, except they're not yet shining brightly in visible light wavelengths," Sanders said.

They emit 10 times more heat than visible light, he said. Caltech studies of 10 of the systems showed they apparently were formed by the gravity-caused collision of spiral

galaxies, Sanders said during the American Astronomical Society's annual meeting.

The theory that galactic collisions form quasars is well-accepted, but Caltech's research is significant because it identifies the infrared galaxies as an intermediate step in quasar formation, said society spokesman Steve Maran, a senior scientist for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

About 3,600 quasars have been seen since the class of superbright objects was first identified in 1963. With cores the size of earth's solar system, the mysterious bodies emit ultraviolet and visible light that outshines galaxies of billions of suns. The most powerful quasars are the brightest objects in the universe.

Photographs made with the 200-inch and 60-inch telescopes at Caltech's Palomar Observatory, near San Diego, show that the infrared galaxies

look like the result of collisions between galaxies with the spiral arms.

The infrared galaxies have "a distorted central disk that is essentially the merged product of two individual galaxies and long tidal tails, which are stars that are stripped off" as two galaxies bash into each other, Sanders said.

A second series of studies involved radio telescopes at California's Owens Valley, Arizona's Kitt Peak and Amherst, Massachusetts.

Radio images showed extremely high concentrations of gas in the centre of the infrared galaxies, indicating that galactic collisions help concentrate the gas needed to fuel quasars, which are believed to have black holes at their central power generator.

Black holes are objects so dense that their tremendous gravity sucks in even light. But scientists theorise that when gas and dust fall into black holes within

quasars, tremendous amounts of energy are spewed outward to produce intense quasar light.

The third set of studies "analysed the small amount of (visible) light that actually leaks out" from infrared galaxies, Sanders said. "We found light is more characteristic of what you see coming from a quasar" than from other galactic formations.

Last September, Caltech astronomers Charles Beichman and Tom Soifer announced the discovery of a more advanced stage in quasar formation: An infrared galaxy with an internal power source that was blowing holes in the surrounding shroud of gas and dust.

Infrared galaxies produce more heat than visible light because the quasars believed to be forming within them emit ultraviolet and visible light that heat surrounding dust and gas. They apparently become mature quasars when the dust and gas is blown away.

The 25 most populous countries in 1985, 2000 and 2025, ranked by size, medium variant (Population in thousands)

1985		2000		2025	
Country	Population	Country	Population	Country	Population
1. China	1,059,821	1. China	1,255,895	1. China	1,478,159
2. India	758,927	2. India	994,072	2. India	1,229,529
3. USSR	275,618	3. USSR	314,736	3. USSR	368,234
4. USA	239,020	4. USA	268,239	4. Nigeria	338,105
5. Indonesia	166,440	5. Indonesia	211,367	5. USA	311,936
6. Brazil	135,564	6. Brazil	179,487	6. Indonesia	272,744
7. Japan	120,742	7. Nigeria	161,930	7. Brazil	248,809
8. Bangladesh	101,147	8. Bangladesh	145,800	8. Bangladesh	219,383
9. Pakistan	100,380	9. Pakistan	140,961	9. Pakistan	209,976
10. Nigeria	95,198	10. Japan	125,725	10. Mexico	154,086
11. Mexico	78,566	11. Mexico	109,180	11. Japan	135,082
12. Germany, Fed. Rep. of	60,877	12. Viet Nam	79,870	12. Ethiopia	120,286
13. Viet Nam	59,713	13. Philippines	74,057	13. Viet Nam	108,482
14. Italy	57,300	14. Ethiopia	66,509	14. Philippines	102,737
15. United Kingdom	56,125	15. Thailand	65,503	15. Iran (Islamic Rep. of)	97,011
16. France	54,821	16. Turkey	65,361	16. Turkey	90,399
17. Philippines	54,498	17. Iran (Islamic Rep. of)	65,161	17. Egypt	90,097
18. Thailand	51,411	18. Egypt	63,941	18. Thailand	85,929
19. Turkey	49,289	19. Germany, Fed. Rep. of	69,642	19. United Rep. of Tanzania	83,806
20. Egypt	46,909	20. Italy	67,162	20. Kenya	82,850
21. Iran (Islamic Rep. of)	44,832	21. France	67,162	21. South Africa	78,361
22. Ethiopia	43,567	22. United Kingdom	56,354	22. Burma	65,960
23. Rep. of Korea	41,258	23. Rep. of Korea	50,981	23. Rep. of Korea	61,572
24. Spain	38,542	24. Burma	48,439	24. France	58,431
25. Poland	37,187	25. Zaire	47,581		

Population Division—World Population Prospects as Assessed in 1984

Global estimates reveal growth rate decline

The following article is reprinted from Population, the U.N. Fund for Population Activities' Newsletter.

BY THE year 2000, the total world population could well reach more than six billion, and by 2025, it could total more than eight billion. These and other population figures are revealed in a forthcoming United Nations publication entitled *World Population Prospects as Assessed in 1984*, issued by the Population Division, Department of International Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations.

While the rate of population

growth has entered a phase of gradual decline, the report notes, the actual number of persons added to the world's population each year is increasing. This means that at present the equivalent of the current population of Mexico or the whole of Northern Europe is being added to the world total each year.

Among the major areas of the world, Africa is experiencing the highest rate of growth: 3.0 per cent. The Population Division publication shows that this rate is expected to increase further and remain above 3 per cent until the end of the century, owing to a very slow decline in high fertility rates

and continuous improvement in mortality rates.

The report notes that Latin America has the next highest growth rate, 2.2 per cent which is expected to drop after 1995. Asia is growing as fast as the world average, 1.7 per cent, but the rate of growth 0.3 per cent; its total population may begin to decline at the beginning of the next century.

Requests for *World Population Prospects as Assessed in 1984* should be addressed to: Director, Population Division, Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations, New York, N.Y. 10017, U.S.A. Sales no. 86.XIII.3. Price \$47.00.

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Lendl, Becker power their way forward in Australia

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Top seed Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia and his great rival Boris Becker of West Germany on Saturday powered their way into the last 16 of the \$1.65 million Australian Open tennis championships at Kooyong.

Lendl scored a 6-4, 6-2, 6-7, 6-2 third round triumph over American Matt Anger to clinch a meeting with NCAA champion Dan Goolie of the United States.

Two-time Wimbledon champion Becker, the second seed, downed his friend and doubles partner Slobodan Zivojinovic of Yugoslavia 6-3, 6-3, 3-6, 6-3.

Rookie pro Goolie upset 16th seeded Ramesh Krishnan of India 3-6, 7-5, 6-7, 6-2, 6-2 in impressive style.

Miloslav Mecir of Czechoslovakia, the sixth seed, also advanced Saturday, defeating South African Gary Muller 6-4, 6-4, 6-4.

World number one Lendl, bidding to win a Grand Slam event on grass for the first time, was highly critical of the surface on the outside court where he faced Anger.

"It was like a parking lot," said the 26-year-old U.S. Open champion.

Becker's match against Zivojinovic was a real crowd pleaser, with the two friends clearly enjoying their confrontation.

Earlier Saturday, defending

champion Stefan Edberg of Sweden blasted his way past Australian John Frawley. Edberg, the fourth seed, took just 98 minutes to down unseeded Frawley 6-4, 6-3, 6-1 in their third-round encounter.

American Tim Wilkison, the 14th seed, also scored a quick third-round victory, while Australian Liz Smylie upset ninth-seeded Robin White of the United States 6-1, 6-2, to move into the fourth round of the women's singles.

Wilkison defeated 1976 Australian Open winner Mark Edmondson of Australia 6-2, 6-1, 7-6, taking out the final-set tiebreaker 7-4.

Seeded women to advance Saturday included no. 5 Claudia Kohde-Kilsch of West Germany and no. 8 Lori McNeil of the United States.

"I'm playing ok," Edberg said after his speedy win, during which he did not once drop service.

"My form is nothing special, but I'm playing well on the big points, and that's what matters. I saved a lot of break points, and that's a good sign."

"I started slowly when I won

last year (in December 1985), so I'm hopeful things will work out this time."

The Australian Open was not held in 1986 as the tournament was moved from December to January.

Edberg suffered a confidence-sapping loss to Australian Pat Cash in the Davis Cup final at Kooyong last month, but said he had put that defeat out of his mind.

"I'd like revenge, but this is a new year and I'm keen to play," the 21-year-old right-hander said.

Edberg tried to play down the pressure of being the defending champion.

"No one expected me to win last year, but this year it feels very different," he said.

The veteran Smylie was a surprisingly easy winner over White, whose aggressive game makes her dangerous on grass.

"I served really well today, and when I serve well everything else seems to fall into place," Smylie said.

McNeil downed fellow American Marianne Werdel 6-2, 7-5, while the tall Kohde-Kilsch breezed past veteran Tina Modchizuki of the United States 6-2, 6-2.

Australian teen-ager Janine Thompson earned a meeting with defending champion Martina Navratilova by beating American Beverly Bowes 6-3, 7-5.

Espinoza wins WBA junior featherweight title

PHOENIX, Arizona (R) — American Louie Espinoza stopped Tommy Valoy of the Dominican Republic at one minute, 52 seconds of the fourth round Saturday night to win the World Boxing Association's vacant junior featherweight title.

Espinoza knocked down Valoy with a straight right hand to the head half-way through the fourth round of the scheduled 15-round fight.

Espinoza followed up the knockdown with a flurry of punches, pining Valoy against the ropes. As Valoy staggered from the onslaught, referee Enzo Montero of Venezuela stepped in and stopped the fight.

"The eyes were rolling on him," Montero said. "He was hurt enough. He was in bad condition. Espinoza was too superior, too strong."

Neither Valoy nor his handlers complained when the fight was stopped. They left quickly and did not comment. Valoy is now 21-2.

Espinoza, 21-1 with 17 knockouts, came out strong in the first round, using mostly a left jab

to send Valoy back pedalling. He continued to be the aggressor in the second round, as well.

Valoy came back in the third round with a strong left jab and stunned Espinoza with a right to the head. But Espinoza shook it off toward the end of the round and returned to using his left jab effectively.

"I was ready for anything. We were prepared," said Espinoza, adding that he had set up Valoy with a jab before landing the right that floored the Dominican.

Though his trainer had predicted Espinoza would knock out his opponent sometime between the fourth and seventh rounds, Espinoza said he was surprised when the fight was stopped.

"I was just going to keep going," he said. "I knew I had him."

The WBA has ordered Espinoza to defend his title within 120 days against former champion Victor Calles, who was stripped of the crown by the WBA for twice backing out of fights with Espinoza last year.

NBA roundup

Boston Celtics edge Cavaliers in OT

NEW YORK (AP) — Having played with and against Michael Jordan, Cleveland rookie Brad Daugherty thought he'd already seen the best basketball of his life.

Mr. Daugherty, meet Larry Bird.

"Now I've played against (Michael) Jordan and all the others, but Bird is the best of all I've played against in my life. He works hard. He has my vote for MVP," said the first-year center.

Bird, the NBA's most valuable player in each of the last three seasons, scored 35 points Friday night to go along with 38 from teammate Kevin McHale, and it was barely enough to give the Celtics a 133-128 overtime victory over the rookie-laden Cavaliers.

While Daugherty was busy praising Boston, the Celtics were offering a self-critique far less flattering.

"We had the attitude it was Cleveland and we could turn it on and off," Boston coach K.C. Jones said.

Rockets 112, Pistons 106 While Akem Olatunwo was in the process of scoring 33 points, Houston was establishing a 97-76 lead. But the Rockets were forced to withstand a 15-point Detroit run to extend their longest winning streak of the season to five games.

The Rockets, attempting to fill the void created by the NBA ban of guards Lewis Lloyd and Mitchell Wiggins for drug use,

acquired veteran forward Cedric Maxwell from the Los Angeles Clippers for a first-round 1987 draft pick and a third-round pick in 1988.

Mavericks 124, Bucks 122 Coach Dick Motta was more than happy to take the win because Dallas had not won in all six previous visits to Milwaukee, dating back to 1980. But he felt sorry for the founder of the game.

The game we played in the first three quarters, Dr. (James) Naismith would have been disappointed," he explained. "We had the turnovers and were asleep. All of a sudden, we decided to play, and then they (the Bucks) went in the can."

Supersonics 134, Nuggets 100

Denver ran into a roadblock in the form of Alton Lister, who set a Seattle club record with eight blocked shots. Lister, who also scored 19 points, has rejected 14 shots in two games.

"I've been able to time the blocks and I'm attacking," Lister said. "I'm beginning to read defensively."

Warriors 118, Clippers 106 Ten straight points from Eric "Sleepy" Floyd brought Golden State from behind at home.

Los Angeles led 99-98 with five minutes remaining. Floyd then began his streak, and the Warriors surged to a 108-101 lead in the next two minutes.

"We didn't play very well and we still won," Golden State coach George Karl said. "That's supposed to be the mark of a good team."

Monte Carlo Rally sets off

BAD HOMBURG, West Germany (R) — West German Walter Roehrl and co-driver Christian Geistdoerfer sped off in an Audi 200 Quattro Saturday on the first stage of the 55th Monte Carlo Rally in sub-zero, snowy conditions.

The two men were looking for a record-breaking fifth victory in eight years.

Meanwhile world rallying champion Juha Kankkunen of Finland was also beginning his challenge in Sestriere in Italy along with Italian Massimo Biasion and French hopeful Bruno Saby.

In Spain, 15 teams got under way from Barcelona with temperatures sharply up and forecast to reach 11°C (52°F). The road to the French border was reported clear.

Overall 160 teams from 15 countries left from the five starting points — Bad Homburg, Barcelona, Lausanne in Switzerland, Monte Carlo and Sestriere.

Zamalek cuts National's lead

CAIRO (R) — A second-half goal by striker Gamal Abdul Hamid, gave Zamalek of Cairo maximum points from its clash Saturday with Ismaili and cut to two points the lead of champion and city rival National.

Displaying the form that helped his side's African Champions' Cup triumph last month, Hamid netted the only goal four minutes after the break when he headed a Tareq Yehia cross hoisted over from the far left.

Zamalek now goes on to meet National, three-time holders of the African Cup-Winners' Cup, on Friday. If it wins, it would lead the 12-team table for the first time this season.

Clashes between the two sides, which between them provide the national squad with most of its players, have traditionally been something of a local derby, bringing life in soccer-crazy Egypt to a complete halt.

French woman wins super giant slalom

PERONTEN, West Germany (AP) — Catherine Quenier of France captured a women's super giant slalom Saturday to post her first-ever World Cup victory.

Quenier clocked a quick one minute, 17.40 seconds to finish more than half a second ahead of West Germany's Traudi Haecker, who turned in a 1:17.92.

Third place was Haecker's teammate, Marina Kiehl, with a 1:18.37.

The Swiss skiers, after dominating for much of the season, managed only a sixth place finish, by Vreni Schneider. She clocked a 1:18.67.

Everton closes to within one of leader Arsenal

LONDON (R) — Everton confirmed its status as English First Division championship favourites with an impressive 2-0 home win over Sheffield Wednesday Saturday to move within one point of leader Arsenal.

With only nine of the 61 scheduled matches in Britain surviving icy conditions, Liverpool also kept up the pressure by winning 1-0 at Manchester City to trim Arsenal's edge over it to six points.

But Arsenal will have the chance to cancel out the chasing duo's success at home to Coventry Sunday, a match which will almost certainly go ahead despite the weather.

Only one match was played in Scotland, Glasgow Rangers

beating Hamilton 2-0 in front of a crowd of 44,000 to go to the top of the Premier League above Glasgow Celtic.

But what should have been a straightforward victory for Rangers turned sour in the second half when England international defender Graham Roberts — who was considered to be something of a "hard man" during his career with Tottenham — was sent off after receiving two cautions.

Rangers eventually finished the game with nine men after midfielder Ian Durrant was also shown the red card three minutes after Roberts for a wild tackle on Hamilton striker Albert Craig.

Despite a cruel injury list, Everton has gradually emerged as the most likely champion

West German wins 1st ever downhill event

WENGEN, Switzerland (AP) — West Germany's Markus Wasmeier won his first-ever World Cup downhill race Saturday, mastering the 4.1-kilometre (2.5 miles) Laubhorn course in 2 minutes, 29.62 seconds.

The 23-year-old slalom specialist finished 1.09 seconds ahead of Switzerland's Karl Alpiiger on the longest run in World Cup competition.

Franz Heinzer of Switzerland, skiing with an injured left knee, finished third in 2:31.17.

Swiss ace Pirmin Zurbriggen, who leads in both the overall and downhill standings, finished a disappointing ninth in 2:51.55.

Wasmeier averaged about 60 miles an hour in picking up his sixth World Cup victory. He has also won four super-giant slaloms and one combined.

Wasmeier was able to gain time on his competitors in the middle, slower part of the course.

The weather was excellent, with sunny skies and temperatures just below freezing on the course in the Bernese Oberland. The area had been plagued earlier in the week

by fog and high winds, forcing cancellation of Wednesday's practice run.

Danilo Sardello of Italy finished fourth in 2:31.26, followed closely by Swiss veteran Peter Mueller in 2:31.30.

The top-finisher from the U.S. team was Michael Brown, who took 12th place with a time of 2:31.96 on the course with a drop of 1,028 metres (yards).

Defending World Cup champion Marc Girardelli of Luxembourg made a poor showing of 2:33.72 to finish outside the top 15. Despite a near-win in the super-giant slalom last week, the Austrian-born skier's season has been hampered by a nagging shoulder injury.

The Wengen competition, which closes with a slalom on Sunday, is the second-to-last World Cup contest before the Alpine Skiing World Championships at Crans-Montana, Switzerland.

The men's competition moves next weekend to Kitzbuehl, Austria, for a downhill and a slalom.

British rallyists arrested

LONDON (AP) — Two members of a British auto rally team, which retired from the Paris-Dakar Race with mechanical trouble, are being held in an Algerian jail accused of currency violations, a spokesman for the team said.

Co-driver Barry Lee, four-time world hot rod auto racing champion, and team sponsor Mike Magee, are being held by Algerian authorities near the border with Mali. Their team leader says they are the victims of a misunderstanding.

The two were part of the Toleman team which was forced to retire from the gruelling 12,800-kilometre rally as it crossed the Sahara Desert. A spokesman for the team, Fiona Watkins, said that team leader Ted Toleman was among others held at first but later released.

Watkins said Toleman contacted his London office to say the arrests arose out of a misunderstanding and he hoped the British Consulate in Algiers would resolve the matter soon.

In a statement issued by Ted Toleman from Bamako in Mali, he said: "Algerian rules concerning money carried in and out of the country are very strict. All currency held must be declared on entering the country and this the team did."

"However, after retiring from the rally, in order to set out on their own across the Sahara Desert, those team members who were not making the crossing handed their money to Barry Lee, who held it in the event of a breakdown or other mishap on the journey."

Toleman added that when the team reached the border between Algeria and Mali, Lee and Magee had amounts of currency exceeding the sum declared on entering the country.

All members of the British team were detained, but Toleman and Belgian driver Luc Janssens were allowed to go on after a few days after discussions with the authorities.

Ted Toleman said the team was not in any way trying to skirt around the Algerian currency controls.

"It was a simple misunderstanding of the rules. I regard it as a minor matter which should rapidly be resolved through the British Consulate, who already has made representations on behalf of my two colleagues," he said.

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PLAZA

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Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

RAGHADAN

Tel: 622198

VICTORY

Performances 12:15, 3:00, 5:00, 9:45

دولت، من، لیتا

Mexico cuts oil exports

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexico announced Friday it would cut its oil exports by 30,000 barrels a day or just under three per cent, becoming the second non-OPEC producer in a week to follow the oil group's decision to boost prices through lower production.

The energy and mines department also announced it would study the idea of returning to a system of fixed prices instead of negotiating prices with importers at the end of each month, as it has done since January 1986.

The announcements by Energy and Mines Secretary Alfredo Del Mazo followed two days of talks with Venezuelan Oil Minister Arturo Hernandez Grisanti.

Mr. Del Mazo, at a news conference with Mr. Hernandez Grisanti, said Mexico will lower its daily export level to 1.32 million barrels a day from the previous level of 1.35 million barrels a day.

He said Mexico was not committed to maintaining the new level over a specific time period but said it would almost certainly remain in effect for a six months, in accordance with OPEC policy.

Mr. Hernandez Grisanti was one of five ministers dispatched by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to meet with independent producers and explain the group's December decision to cut output by 7.6 per cent, to a maximum 15.8 million barrels a day, in the first half of this year in hopes of raising and keeping prices at about \$18 per 42-gallon barrel.

Norway, another independent producer, had announced Tuesday it was cutting exports by an average 80,000 barrels a day in the first half of this year from its daily level of around one million barrels.

That announcement followed a meeting between Norwegian officials and Saudi Arabia's oil minister.

Venezuelan sources said earlier in the week they had hoped to convince Mexico to cut exports by about 50,000 barrels a day, but Mr. Hernandez Grisanti expressed satisfaction with the Mexican decision.

Mr. Del Mazo said Mexico had actually shipped an average 1.352 million barrels a day in the last three months of 1986. He said the new, reduced daily output would easily be sufficient to fulfil Mexico's supply contracts.

Mexico's government oil monopoly, Pemex, has dropped in recent months its practice of announcing its monthly prices. However, Mr. Del Mazo said that as of Friday, Pemex was charging an average of approximately \$18 a barrel for its light Isthmus grade crude and \$15.40 a barrel for heavy Maya crude.

Mexican authorities will study "very carefully" the idea of scrapping or revising the pricing system adopted a year ago when world prices were in almost constant flux. He said the system, which among other things took into account shipping distances and daily fluctuations in world prices, had been "a good idea" at the time.

Although independent, Mexico has generally followed OPEC policies.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, Jan. 10, '87 and ending Wednesday, Jan. 14, '87. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	—	—	—	—	1,000
Petra Bank	2500	5278	2,000	2,100	1,000
Jordan Islamic Bank	1939	4136	2,250	2,100	1,000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	18147	29711	1,750	1,660	1,000
Jordan Gulf Bank	3750	4640	1,260	1,220	1,000
Housing Bank	100	163	1,630	1,630	1,000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	2000	4075	2,180	2,050	1,000
Bank of Jordan	7767	131128	16,400	17,000	5,000
Arab Bank	850	109451	128,000	126,000	10,000
Jordan National Bank	14408	35456	2,500	2,440	1,000
Jordan Finance House for Development	7000	4860	0,680	0,680	1,000
Islamic Investment House	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	13550	11571	1,320	1,420	1,000
Finance and Credit Corporation	146999	44685	0,830	0,770	1,000
National Financial Investments	9560	13166	1,300	1,310	1,000
National Portfolio Securities	581	352	0,630	0,610	1,000
Jordan Securities Corporation	3928	3751	0,920	0,970	1,000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	—	—	—	—	1,000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	—	—	—	—	1,000
Al Mashrek Exchange	—	—	—	—	10,000
Bank of Jordan (New Issue)	—	—	—	—	5,000
Insurance and reinsurance					
Jordan French Insurance	2100	6370	3,100	3,000	1,000
REFCO Life Insurance	1945	1556	0,800	0,800	1,000
Jordan Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	100	80	0,800	0,800	1,000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	1800	1568	0,850	0,900	1,000
Holy Land Insurance	19000	19000	0,950	1,000	1,000
Arabian Sea Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Philadelphian Insurance	1000	700	0,650	0,700	1,000
Arab Union International Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jerusalem Insurance	1500	1800	1,260	1,200	1,000
Petra Jordan Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Gulf Insurance	5300	3711	0,720	0,680	1,000
Universal Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
General Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Eagle Insurance	—	—	—	—	10,000
Middle East Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Al-Yahiri Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
National Insurance	9520	12573	1,290	1,450	1,000
Services and industries					
Darco for Housing and Investment	33904	19711	0,570	0,570	1,000
Real Estate Investment (Aqarco)	—	—	—	—	1,000
Management and Consultancy	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Development and Investment	—	—	—	—	1,000
General Investment	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Leasing Corporation	1278	875	0,670	0,680	1,000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	2528	404	0,660	0,660	1,000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Ta'jeero	37010	17247	0,530	0,970	1,000
Jordanian Electric Power	4513	6615	1,460	1,470	1,000
Irbid District Electricity	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab International Hotels	510	199	0,390	0,390	1,000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	1,000
Garage Owners Federation Office	12301	10862	0,880	0,880	1,000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	—	—	—	—	1,000
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing	18400	20999	1,140	1,160	1,000
Jordan Dairy	7822	15908	1,970	2,050	1,000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	101058	75768	0,790	0,750	1,000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	3467	4686	1,320	1,360	1,000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intal)	67	288	4,300	4,300	1,000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	102617	94957	0,910	0,930	1,000
Aladdin Industries	325580	440439	1,260	1,420	1,000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	450	1860	4,300	4,000	1,000
Jordan Worsteds Mills	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Ceramics	4200	4031	0,940	0,960	1,000
Chemical Industries	2050	922	0,450	0,480	1,000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	705	962	1,300	1,370	1,000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	170364	322548	1,730	1,830	1,000
National Steel Industries	3850	2993	0,790	0,780	1,000
Universal Chemical Industries	—	—	—	—	5,000
General Mining	7176	48574	6,700	6,800	1,000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	95836	22820	0,240	0,250	1,000
Jordan Lime & Brick	1450	1012	0,700	0,690	1,000
National Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	—	—	—	—	1,000
Livestock and Poultry	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	3950	4898	1,250	1,240	1,000
Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	6500	2480	0,390	0,380	1,000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Himeh Mineral	—	—	—	—	1,000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	1,000
Woolen Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Tanning	91	146	1,600	1,600	1,000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	27	286	10,500	10,600	5,000
Jordan Brewery	—	—	—	—	1,000
Mas Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	45600	37984	0,850	0,840	1,000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	15439	9263	0,580	0,600	1,000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	408574	560111	1,460	1,640	1,000
Jordan Industrial Investment Corporation	10697	8352	0,780	0,780	1,000
Jordan Sulpho Chemicals (auction)	—	—	—	—	1,000
Grand total	1,703,808	2,188,201			

Living standards deteriorate to 'unimaginable' levels in Latin American nations

MEXICO CITY (AP) — The economic crisis still gripping Latin America has forced down living standards for much of its population to levels "unimaginable a few years ago," according to a new United Nations report.

The U.N. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean also said the financial crunch has caused the productive facilities of those countries to deteriorate "to the point of jeopardising the reactivation capacity of the economies."

"Now it is commonplace to say that the current crisis is the deepest and the most prolonged that the region has experienced in the last half a century," said the report, released in advance of a commission conference beginning Monday in Mexico City.

The report offers measures the Latin American nations can take to help bring about greater development in the region.

Many of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean are burdened with enormous foreign debts that have restricted their economic development in recent years.

Belt-tightening measures imposed to try to improve their economies have often cut into the living standards of their large, impoverished populations.

"It is important to emphasise that, notwithstanding the incipient recuperation registered in some countries in 1986, the deterioration of the levels of well-being of vast sectors of the Latin American and Caribbean population has acquired proportions that would have been unimaginable a few years ago," the report said.

The report said the debt servicing burden of the countries is a key obstacle to growth.

It said 34 per cent to 40 per cent of the foreign currency the countries earn and a quarter of their domestic savings are earmarked for debt payments.

With such a large amount of money flowing out of the country, the countries have trouble financing imports needed to help

their industries and factories expand and their economies to grow.

Therefore, it urged that the debt costs be reduced and the international financial community provide greater financing for those countries.

Since the start of the debt crisis in 1982, private banks have been increasingly reluctant to provide more loans to the Latin American nations.

The commission report foresees little likelihood this trend will soon change.

"Everything appears to indicate, at least in the medium term, that the majority of the economies of the region will lack access to net external financing in magnitudes comparable to those of the last decade," the report said.

As a result, the report urged the Latin American and Caribbean countries to take steps to strengthen their own economies.

It called on the countries to work to expand their economies while reducing — or at least controlling — the inflation rate. They also need to increase the amount of domestic savings and investment in the economy.

Soviet Union gets 100 foreign proposals for joint ventures

MOSCOW (R) — About 100 foreign companies have proposed forming joint business ventures in the Soviet Union under new reforms that allow firms from non-communist nations to establish these, the official TASS news agency said Friday.

TASS said companies in countries including Finland, West Germany, Japan, Italy, France, The Netherlands, India and the United States had sent in requests to establish joint ventures under the new rules which took effect on Jan. 1.

Without naming the firms, it said talks had begun and were expected to lead to the establishment of the first Soviet joint enterprises with non-communist countries before the end of the first quarter of 1987.

TASS said foreign enthusiasm demonstrated that regulations for the joint ventures were reasonable.

Under the regulations, at least 51 per cent of a joint enterprise set up in the country must belong to the Soviet partner and all employees must be Soviet nationals with the exception of individual skilled specialists from abroad.

Work rules and salaries are to be regulated by Soviet labour law, although management may introduce incentives for workers if trade unions agree.

Goods produced by joint enterprises may be sold directly on foreign markets, and foreign firms are guaranteed exemption from customs duties on imported materials.

Exemption from taxes is also guaranteed for the first two years. When profits are transferred abroad, 20 per cent of their total is to be paid in duties.

TASS said the regulations were the same as those covering joint enterprises with communist countries, which have been allowed on Soviet territory since May 1983.

EC, Soviet Union hold trade talks

Meanwhile, the Soviet Union is openly seeking formal diplomatic ties with the European Community (EC), walking away years of ideological distaste for the 12-nation Western economic bloc.

A Community spokeswoman disclosed that senior Soviet foreign trade experts from Moscow and EC officials had held talks Friday and on Thursday to set up formal links.

The preliminary discussions in Brussels, she said, had taken place in a "constructive atmosphere" and had been welcomed by both sides. Another meeting would take place at a date to be fixed.

But EC diplomats said they did not expect any new development on the contacts in the next few weeks and thought a fresh round of talks might not take place before spring.

Under past conservative Kremlin leaderships the Soviet Union, whose enormous economy dominates the 10-member Comecon communist economic group, spurned relations with the EC, portraying it as the economic arm of the NATO Western military alliance and a capitalist tool oppressing Western workers.

But EC diplomats say Soviet Communist Party leader, Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, in line with other diversions from previous entrenched Soviet positions, appears to have decided to drop Moscow's ideological opposition to recognising the EC.

EC countries have a trade deficit in relations with East European countries, including the Soviet Union, of about \$10 billion, largely explained by huge imports of Soviet fuels and raw materials which are only partially offset by EC exports of equipment and manufactured goods.

EC diplomats said the new Soviet approach gave Moscow's tacit blessing to contacts that other East Bloc communist countries, particularly Romania, Hungary and Czechoslovakia, have had with the EC in the past few years.

"These contacts from the Soviet Union really complete the whole circle from Comecon," said one EC diplomat who monitors East-West trade relations.

But the diplomat, while recognising the move could bring gains for Mr. Gorbachev's priority of making the Soviet economy work, saw it as mainly political.

The talks with the Soviet Union took place as the EC entered a crucial phase in talks with the United States over U.S. access to Spanish grain markets. If the talks fail there could be an all-out trans-Atlantic trade war.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, JAN. 18, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The morning gives you the chance to start the week right by getting into all the details of the most important and potentially successful project you have going.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Plan how to gain more in your daily endeavors but don't take any risks. Go about your own business.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Plan just how to have greater success in a new project. Don't get into extravagant pleasures.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Do whatever will make your family happy for some time to come. Postpone home entertainment.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Get the aid of a clever friend when making plans for the future and get better results.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Talk over any important affairs with kin. Don't listen to the advice of one who has too big an ego.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Listen to what those who are cognisant of your wishes are suggesting. Later, get your appearance improved.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Plan how to add materially to your present abundance. Handle tasks that need to be done.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) If you contact an expert you know you can add scope to your ambitions before you get to work on them.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Advice given to you confidentially by a bigwig could prove dangerous, so be careful.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You can gain advanced ideas, but later study the details connected with them. Think things out clearly.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Discuss your obligations with an expert and get good advice on how best to handle them.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Your allies can be of help to you if you contact them early in the day. Gain the added prestige you desire.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will devise a wise plan for the future and will carry through with it until it becomes a great success. A fine education will add to the many talents he or she has, even though many hard knocks will be encountered on the road of life. Sports are a must here.

THE Daily Crossword

by Harold B. Counts

ACROSS

1. Incline
5. Camembert
9. Peace
13. Kazan
14. Agnew
15. Insurance
16. 19th member
19. Spot, river
20. Bamboo
21. Finch
22. — pecking (climber)
23. Fertilizer night
24. Dutch island
26. Trading
28. Fax
31. City on the Rhine
32. Distant
33. Nobel prize physicist
34. Ex. Western Globetrotter
37. Eng. queen
38. Communication
39. Bomb
40. Cole
41. Reflect
42. Road fish
43. US editor and writer
44. Soviet co-op
45. On land
46. Crawls
48. Thick, weight
53. Aussie marquis
55. Chess the set
57. Australian coast
58. Alder or cedar
59. Curved walking
60. Thin Mar's wife
61. Layers

DOWN

1. Fox
2. Disheveled
3. Sals
4. Golf word
5. Chess
6. Similar types
7. Old up
8. Fountain
9. Comment
10. Melody
11. Breakfast dish
12. Treasuresome
13. Thing
14. Tuscany city
17. City in Sweden
18. Architect of St. Paul's
22. Kid leather
24. Roaring ring
25. Laughing
27. Kind of rubber
28. Backless
29. Canned s
30. 1/2 quart
31. Govt. agent
32. "Wall That" Sings
33. Have a ball
35. Chicago suburb
36. Cal. town
41. "September"
42. Master state
43. Idaho city
45. Lasso
46. Legal refuse
48. Exotic
50. Myth guest
51. Stamp
52. The god
54. Player for pay
55. High degree

Yesterday's Puzzle Solver:

ALICE ALICE ALICE ALICE
LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE
EGOT EGOT EGOT EGOT
BOHEM BOHEM BOHEM BOHEM
SIRIA SIRIA SIRIA SIRIA
PIASTRA PIASTRA PIASTRA PIASTRA
ARABIAN ARABIAN ARABIAN ARABIAN
TIGER TIGER TIGER TIGER
REAL REAL REAL REAL
HARK HARK HARK HARK
HARK HARK HARK HARK
AFARI AFARI AFARI AFARI
GOLDEN GOLDEN GOLDEN GOLDEN
TIGER TIGER TIGER TIGER
STRIP STRIP STRIP STRIP

Peanuts

I THINK I'LL ASK THAT LITTLE RED HAIR GIRL IF I CAN WALK HOME FROM SCHOOL WITH HER...

I THINK I'LL MAKE A REMARK ABOUT HOW COLD IT IS...

I THINK I'LL SUGGEST THAT MAYBE I SHOULD HOLD HER HAND...

I THINK I'LL WALK VERY SLOW IN CASE I BUMP INTO A TREE...

Mutt 'n' Jeff

...BUT... WHAT IS HAPPINESS? OTHER FOLKS ARE MAKING IT HAPPY!

HA BRINGS HAPPINESS INTO THE HOME ALL THE TIME!

I LOVE - I WON'T BE HOME TONIGHT. I'M PLAYING CARDS WITH THE BOYS.

WHAT YOU JUST DID WON'T MAKE THE MUTT HAPPY! THAT WILL MAKE THEM MISERABLE!

SOME FOLKS IS NEVER HAPPY UNLESS THEY IS MISERABLE!

Andy Capp

INCIDENTALLY, MUM'S SISTER AT WORK HAS INVITED HER FOR A LONG STAY SO THERE'S A POSSIBILITY SHE WON'T BE SPENDING CHRISTMAS WITH US THIS YEAR.

SHE WON'T?

SHE WON'T?

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris

"My diet says no red meat... so I fry it up until it's black."

JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ENGAM

WESHO

TICUND

DOUXES

FOR NOT SHOVELING THE SIDEWALK THERE

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: HONOR DUCAL COUSIN BALLAD

Answer: When he became top banana he lost touch with this — THE OLD BUNCH

Afghan guerrillas agree to form interim government

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (Agencies) — Afghan rebel leaders agreed to set up an "interim" government to take over in Afghanistan after the overthrow of the Soviet-backed administration of Communist leader Najibullah, the main alliance said Saturday.

A declaration by the seven main guerrilla groups, issued at a rally of an estimated 60 to 70,000 Afghan exiles in north-west Pakistan, also rejected Kabul's latest peace initiative as a conspiracy.

Any guerrilla who accepted the ceasefire declared from Jan. 15 would be considered an agent of the Soviet or Kabul secret services who had infiltrated their ranks, the declaration said.

It vowed to continue the eight-year struggle until the expulsion of the estimated 115,000 Soviet troops and the overthrow of Mr. Najibullah's government.

The declaration said that by the end of February a commission would present to alliance leaders draft laws and regulations for an interim government to take over after the ousting of the Communists.

The government would supervise general elections for the establishment of an Islamic government and parliament.

A new constitution for an Islamic state would then be drafted.

It was not clear whether the interim administration would start as soon as the guidelines were approved or whether it intended to function as a "government-in-exile" in

Pakistan or elsewhere.

The party leaders, who held three days of talks in Peshawar this week, also agreed to set up Islamic courts to arbitrate in internal disputes among the guerrillas.

The declaration was issued at a rally in Peshawar, addressed by all seven party leaders in a rare display of unity.

Speaker after speaker denounced reconciliation with the Communists.

The all-male crowd flocked to the meeting in lorries, cars and minibuses, on carts and on horseback from refugee camps around the city.

The Afghans, some carrying black or green flags, were briefly searched by rebel security guards on their way into the site. Some climbed trees to get a better view of the stage where the seven leaders sat side-by-side on sofas, surrounded by dozens of guards armed with sub-machineguns.

Tens of thousands of hands were raised when Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, leader of one major group, the fundamentalist Hezb-i-Islami, asked the crowd to show who wanted to fight on.

Radio Kabul said Friday two thousands anti-Marxist guerrillas have surrendered to the government.

The guerrillas surrendered in

Kushak administrative districts of the western Herat province, close to the Soviet border, it said in a Dari language newscast monitored in Islamabad.

The radio said last week that 1,000 guerrillas belonging to the Jamiat-i-Islami had surrendered to the government.

Jamiat officials in Peshawar confirmed reports that guerrillas had surrendered. But they said "the number of guerrillas who laid down their arms is a lot lower."

The newscast also said two guerrillas groups of 90 and 30, respectively, surrendered in Herat province, close to the Iranian border. The report did not give any other details.

Meanwhile, a study released by NATO in Brussels, Belgium, said the Soviet Union is spending up to \$4 billion a year on military operations in Afghanistan, or 2 per cent of its total defence budget.

The study also said total Soviet military spending, while apparently limited by the Kremlin's stronger emphasis on modernising the economy, is likely to continue growing at about 1 per cent a year through 1990. That is about in line with expected NATO defence spending growth.

The report was prepared late last year by economic specialists at North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) headquarters and experts from member nations' capitals. A brief summary was released by the West German delegation.

Manila MILF agree to ceasefire

SULTAN KUDARAT, Philippines (R) — President Corason Aquino campaigned across troubled Mindanao Island Saturday pleading for peace while in a tiny schoolroom guarded by 100 armed men her emissary reached a potential ceasefire with a Muslim rebel group.

Mrs. Aquino was greeted by tens of thousands of cheering people as she flew into three cities asking for approval of her new constitution and for an end to violence.

Her plea took on special meaning in Mindanao where Muslim rebel attacks have resulted in 52 deaths in five days and raised fears of a renewed religious insurgency on an island where 50,000 people were killed in the early 1970s.

"When I hear of Filipinos fighting brother Filipinos I feel sorrow. Why should this happen when the same blood runs through our veins," Mrs. Aquino told 20,000 cheering supporters at a rally in the predominantly Christian city of Surigao.

They had waited for hours to see her, standing ankle deep in mud in sports field drenched by a night of rain. Plywood planks were laid down in the mud for her to walk on.

In the tiny Maguindanao provincial town of Sultan Kudarat, Aquino political adviser Aquilino Pimeotel reached an agreement in principle for a temporary ceasefire with the Muslim rebel group that has claimed to be behind this week's violence.

He and the chief of staff of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) agreed to an immediate ceasefire provided the group's exiled leader, Hashim Salamat, concurred.

MILF Chief of Staff Haji Murad said Salamat would be contacted as soon as possible. He is believed to be in Pakistan. Murad said he would also meet Mrs. Aquino if Salamat approved.

Mr. Pimentel and Murad met in a sparsely furnished room, surrounded by 100 MILF rebels who arrived from their secret hideout in three trucks carrying rifles, locally made grenade-launchers, and Eastern-Bloc rocket launchers.

The ceasefire announcement came just a few hours after four people on a bus outside nearby Cotabato, the scene of some of the worst incidents in the past few days, were killed in an explosion as government troops exchanged fire with unknown gunmen.

Mrs. Aquino, who arrives in Cotabato Sunday on the final day of her weekend swing through Mindanao, was greeted by 30,000 people in Iligan where she rejected suggestions that she favoured either Communism or the United States.

S. African opposition rejects election boycott

JOHANNESBURG (R) — The opposition Progressive Federal Party (PFP) Saturday rejected a call by anti-apartheid campaigner Archbishop Desmond Tutu to withdraw from South Africa's whites-only general election.

A statement from PFP leader Colin Egan said the party should use its base in parliament to fight the policies of President P.W. Botha's right-wing National Party (NP) government.

"I believe the PFP can show that in spite of the government's propaganda machine there is growing support among the white electorate for a non-racial and

democratic South Africa," he said.

Tutu Friday told a news conference that the election was a charade and non-event as 73 per cent of the population (blacks) would not have a vote.

Mr. Botha has said he will announce that election date when he opens parliament on Jan. 30. No poll will be held for mixed-race coloureds and Indians who have separate chambers of parliament.

The black majority is excluded from the assembly.

The liberal PFP has 27 parliamentary seats compared to the NP's 127.

Unidentified plane involved in U.S. midair collision

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — An unidentified plane flew into restricted airspace about a minute before a small plane collided with a commuter airliner, said a federal safety officer investigating the crash that killed 10 people.

John Lauber, a National Transportation Safety board member, would not say Friday whether the wayward plane was the small plane involved in the collision Thursday that sent bodies and wreckage hurtling into the suburb of Kearns.

Computer printouts of radar data from Salt Lake City International Airport showed the unidentified plane was about three kilometres inside the airport radar service area when the crash occurred, Lauber told a news conference.

Under federal law, planes must notify an airport's control tower before entering the radar service area.

Investigators hope to learn Saturday whether the wayward craft disclosed on the printouts showed up on the airport traffic controllers' radar screens, Lauber said.

On Thursday, a single-engine Mooney M-20e with two experienced pilots aboard slammed into a Skywest Fairchild Metroliner with eight aboard, killing all 10 people.

The Mooney did not contact air traffic controllers and was not detected by radar operators before the collision, but the Skywest plane was in full contact with the tower.

The unidentified plane was detected more than a minute before it and the Skywest plane dropped from radar, Lauber said.

All 10 bodies were recovered by late Thursday, but residents still were finding body parts Friday and deputies said the grisly discoveries could continue for a week.

U.S. recommends limited approval of AIDS treatment

WASHINGTON (R) — A panel of experts from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has voted to recommend that the AIDS drug AZT be approved by the government for marketing to certain patients.

The panel's recommendation is expected to lead to government approval in the near future.

Its recommendation was limited to the treatment of patients with certain infections usually characterised by the presence of AIDS-related pneumonia, and for patients with advanced ARC, or AIDS-related complex, a disease that frequently precedes full scale AIDS, or acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

AZT, a product of Burroughs Wellcome Co. of North Carolina, a subsidiary of Loo-doo-based Wellcome PLC, is not a cure for AIDS. Company officials say it combats the symptoms of the disease but does not eradicate it.

If approved by the government, AZT would be the first

prescription drug on the U.S. market against AIDS.

In a series of votes following an all-day discussion on AZT held at the FDA's Washington headquarters, the panel concluded that in clinical trials the drug had been shown to benefit individuals with AIDS and ARC.

But it recommended that the FDA assure close patient monitoring in longer-term studies "to resolve important questions about possible adverse effects and efficacy associated with AZT's long-term use."

The committee recommends that the distribution of AZT be tightly controlled, the panel added.

To date, clinical trials have tested tolerance only over a 24-week period.

The panel also recommended more study of the anemia which has been found during clinical tests to be caused by the drug's suppression of the body's bone marrow, which produces new blood cells.

Seoul opposition claims student tortured to death

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea's main opposition party and dissidents charged Saturday that police had tortured a student who died while being interrogated.

The accusations were based on the results of a probe carried out by five lawmakers from the opposition New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP), party officials said.

Park Chan-Jong, the lawmaker who led the probe, concluded that the death of Park Joo-Chul, 21, was likely to have been caused by "brutal acts, including torture."

The two Parks are not related. Police have claimed that no torture was involved, and said the student died of shock after interrogation over alleged anti-government activities.

The body of the student was cremated Friday, two days after he was pronounced dead.

The opposition party, in a statement, said the death was caused by "unpardonable, barbarous acts" resulting from what it called habitual human rights violations by the government of President Chun Doo-Hwan.

The incident was "only the tip of an iceberg," it said.

Kim Hyun-Kyu, the opposition party's floor leader, told reporters the party would call for a special assembly, sitting to debate the issue. But the ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP) expressed skepticism, noting the case is still in the hands of prosecutors.

Prosecutors have promised that policemen involved will be punished if the death of the student is determined to have been caused by torture.

They said an autopsy was conducted Thursday night but results would not be available until next week.

Bangladesh opposition ends boycott of parliament

DHAKA (R) — Bangladesh's main opposition party, the Awami League, has ended a boycott of parliament and will attend its winter session beginning next Saturday, party chief Sheikh Hasina announced Saturday.

She told reporters at northern Faridpur town that since President Hossain Mohammad "Ershad has now lifted martial law, there is no reason to keep away from parliament. This time we are going to attend."

Sheikh Hasina, who is also the parliamentary opposition leader, further said, "people have voted for us to speak for them and we must honour their opinion."

Gen. Ershad ended nearly four and a half years of military rule last November after parliament passed a law, in a one-day session, protecting him against prosecution for his role during martial law.

The constitutional amendment law was approved by a vote of 223-0 in the 330-member house as the Awami League and some smaller parties boycotted.

Opposition parties at the time said they would not join parliament before Gen. Ershad fully restored democracy by ending military rule.

Gen. Ershad, who seized power in a bloodless coup in March, 1982, resigned his post as army chief of staff in August and took over as Bangladesh's third elected president after his landslide victory in the Oct. 15 election, which the opposition claimed were tainted.

Moscow discloses strategic weapons levels

LONDON (R) — The Soviet Union has made a rare public disclosure of its strategic weapons levels in what Western experts said looked like an attempt to demonstrate a new policy of openness as U.S.-Soviet arms talks resume in Geneva.

The figures, giving comparative tables of Soviet and U.S. strengths in various nuclear weapon categories, were contained in a military bulletin circulated Friday by the Soviet Novosti Press Agency.

Novosti said Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev had given them to U.S. President Ronald Reagan when they met in Reykjavik last Oct. 12. The figures, reflecting the situation on Oct. 11, were being published for the first time, it said.

Experts said the statistics largely squared with Western estimates on numbers of long-range missiles, but exaggerated the U.S. lead in heavy bombers and total number of strategic nuclear warheads and bombs.

No figures were given for medium and short-range missiles or battlefield nuclear weapons.

Western analysts, noting that the 22-month-old Geneva talks on nuclear and space weapons resumed on Thursday, suggested the publication of the figures was part of Mr. Gorbachev's policy of

"glasnost" or greater openness.

"I'd hesitate to say it was the first time, but it certainly is rare," said Maj. Robert Elliot of the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS).

Soviet authorities, normally secretive on military affairs, have given some strategic arms figures — though seldom in systematic form — at Moscow press conferences and in a pamphlet called "whence the threat to peace?" last published in 1982.

The United States issues figures in an annual report by the joint chiefs of staff and in an annual government publication "Soviet military power."

The statistics published by Novosti largely followed the categories laid down in the 1979 U.S.-Soviet SALT-2 strategic arms limitation treaty, which set common weapons ceilings for the two superpowers, experts said.

They covered inter-continental ballistic missiles (ICBMs), submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs) and long-range bombers.

The Soviet list diverged from Western estimates in allocating 14,800 "charges", or total of bombs and missile warheads, to the United States and 10,000 to Moscow.

The IISS handbook "the military balance 1986-1987," the

leading Western publication in the field, gives figures of 12,846 and 10,716 respectively.

No explanation was given of how Novosti arrived at its figure.

Western diplomats suggested it had counted the maximum theoretical loading of bombs on airplanes and missiles on submarines for the United States while counting the actually loaded levels for the Soviet Union.

The other main divergence was in the number of heavy bombers attributed to the United States — 518, compared with 260 counted by the IISS. The Soviet Union has 160.

ICBM launchers

Including:

MIRV-equipped ICBM launchers

SLBM launchers

Including:

MIRV-equipped launchers

Total number of ICBM and SLBM launchers

Including:

MIRV-equipped ICBM and SLBM launchers

Heavy bombers

Including:

Heavy bombers equipped for cruise missiles

Total number of ICBM and SLBM launchers and heavy bombers

Including:

ICBM and SLBM launchers and heavy bombers equipped with MIRVs and for cruise missiles

Total number of charges carried by the strategic delivery vehicles

Experts said Novosti was probably including more than 200 old American B-52 bombers which have been taken out of service but are still accountable under SALT-2 rules.

The experts said minor differences from Western estimates of missile figures were probably explained by the gradual dismantling of obsolete systems by both sides.

The figures published by Novosti (note: MIRV multiple independently targetable re-entry vehicle, or multiple warhead):

	USSR	USA
ICBM launchers	1,396	1,018
Including:		
MIRV-equipped ICBM launchers	820	550
SLBM launchers	922	672
Including:		
MIRV-equipped launchers	352	640
Total number of ICBM and SLBM launchers	2,320	1,690
Including:		
MIRV-equipped ICBM and SLBM launchers	1,172	1,190
Heavy bombers	160	518
Including:		
Heavy bombers equipped for cruise missiles	53	127
Total number of ICBM and SLBM launchers and heavy bombers	2,480	2,208
Including:		
ICBM and SLBM launchers and heavy bombers equipped with MIRVs and for cruise missiles	1,225	1,317
Total number of charges carried by the strategic delivery vehicles	10,000	14,800

5 snack bars to open in Moscow

MOSCOW (AP) — Five fast-food outlets capable of dishing up pastries, pizza and American-style "Khaburgers" to 500 people per hour will open in Moscow this year, a newspaper reported Friday. Sovietkaya Rossiya said Muscovites are impressed with reports of quick and tasty meals available in the United States, but that the first snack bars here will be built under contract with firms from Italy, Austria and Sweden. The first outlets, which the newspaper said are "only the beginning," will be located at the city's busiest squares — at two train stations and three subway stations. The brief article gave few details of how the fast food outlets would operate, but they will apparently be run by Soviets and the dishes will be produced with locally available foods.

New Zealand baby named after yacht

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand (R) — Why would a father name his new-born daughter "James" and "K2"? If you are a yachtsman and a fan of American singer Johnny Cash, the answer is simple. First, K2 is the name of the New Zealand yacht contesting the America's cup yacht race. Second, and more obscurely, one of Cash's top songs was called "A Boy Named Sue." "Johnny Cash had a boy named Sue. I've got a girl called James," proud father John Cavanagh told reporters. Cavanagh said his Filipina wife's comment on the unusual names was: "She just said she was married to a bloody mad Kiwi." And the baby's full name — Corazon Takau Rose Juliet James K2 Cavanagh. A sister-in-law, not the Philippine president, inspired the first name and the others were taken from friends and relatives.

Dutch not to legalise euthanasia

THE HAGUE (R) — The Dutch government has decided against asking parliament to legalise euthanasia, the practice of hastening the death of the terminally ill. The cabinet announced its decision after studying an advisory council's recommendation, made six months ago, that it was too soon to change the law to permit mercy killing. The issue has divided the Netherlands, where family doctors are estimated to be involved in 5,000 cases of euthanasia every year. Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers' Christian Democrats and their Liberal coalition partners fell out in public last year when the Liberals sided with the opposition on a bill seeking legalisation of euthanasia, giving it majority support in parliament.

Surrogate mother's appeal rejected

HACKENSACK, New Jersey (AP) — A surrogate mother fighting for custody of a child she bore under contract for a childless couple may not have extended visitation rights, a judge ruled Friday. Judge Harvey Sorkow said that Mary Beth Whitehead must stick to her schedule of twice-weekly, two-hour visits. He said his decision was based in part on expert evaluation of the 9½-month-old baby and that it would be best not to disrupt the girl's daily routine. Sorkow's ruling came during a non-jury trial over whether the surrogate contract that Mrs. Whitehead entered into with William and Elizabeth Stern is enforceable.

Alcohol is dangerous during pregnancy

SEATTLE (AP) — Children born to mothers who drink alcohol during pregnancy may have shorter attention spans and slower reaction times, according to new results from a long-term study of 1,500 women and their children. The most recent findings of the study, now in its 14th year, focused on 7-year-olds and confirmed previous research, performed at earlier ages, showing the danger of prenatal alcohol exposure to children and their development. In addition to the physical deformities and mental retardation in children caused by mothers' alcohol abuse, the long-term research also has found more subtle effects linked to alcohol, according to Ann Pytkowicz Streissguth, a professor in the University of Washington's department of psychiatry and behavioral sciences.

Doctor who sold heads held for trial

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A doctor who bought and sold human heads and body parts was ordered to stand trial, but his lawyer said the man was trying to advance medical science, not make a profit. Arraignment for Dr. Martin Spector was scheduled Feb. 6 on charges of criminal conspiracy, unlawful taking of property, theft of body parts and violation of the health code for shipping heads, ears and arms to medical research facilities. "The court rejects the defences argument that body parts are not property," judge Ronald Merriweather ruled in finding there was sufficient evidence to go to trial. "The court feels that it would outrage the sensibility of any family to have a relative's head sold," Merriweather said. "We reject the notion that when a person donates a body to a medical school they expect anything to be done with it and don't want it back."

Force investigating murders reduced

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Clues coming in to the task force investigating 17 murders blamed on the southside slayer have dwindled, prompting the sheriff's department to take eight investigators off the case. The move was attacked by the leader of a citizens group that has claimed that authorities have devoted inadequate money and manpower to investigate the slayings because the victims were mostly black and poor. "To talk about reducing the task force is outrageous," said Margaret Prescod, leader of the black coalition fighting black serial murders. "The crimes are not solved. No one knows who's killing who." The task force, has formed by the police department and the sheriff's department a year ago to investigate a string of slayings involving women, most of them prostitutes who had been stabbed or strangled.

Motorist survives smash but gets a 'bill'

NEW PLYMOUTH, New Zealand (R) — Motorist Janet Zrinyi thought she paid the price for a collision with a train last June when she broke her left leg, spine and a dozen teeth in an accident at a level crossing. But New Zealand railway authorities have now also billed her 660 dollars (\$320) for stopping the train. "I can see I would be expected to pay for repairs to the train but most of the bill is for labour. I really don't feel like paying someone else's wages," Zrinyi, 25, told reporters. The railway corporation said it was normal procedure to bill people involved in level crossing accidents.

1st woman AIDS patient reported in Japan

TOKYO (AP) — Japan's first identified case of a woman with AIDS was reported in the western port city of Kobe, a Japanese news report has said. The woman, reportedly a prostitute, brings to 26 the number of people in Japan who have been identified as suffering from AIDS, or Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. Seventeen of those people already have died. Kyodo news service reported that the health and welfare ministry's AIDS surveillance commission identified the 26-year-old Japanese woman as an AIDS patient. The woman, who was not named, had been hospitalised in Kobe for pneumonia. Kyodo said. A doctor at the hospital said the woman told him she had been a prostitute and had had several foreign customers, it said.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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WHO'S RIGHT?

If you go down with this hand at rubber bridge, you must be squandering thousands of points each year. You can afford to lose two club tricks and a diamond, and you can assure your contract by simply winning the ace of diamonds and then leading a club from hand at trick two. (Don't hold up the ace, because the opponents might be able to defeat you by shifting to a trump at trick two.) Now there is no way the defenders can stop you from ruffing a club in dummy, limiting your losses to two diamonds and a club.

At duplicate you must consider what the rest of the field will do. Most will be in four hearts, though here and there you might find a three no trump contract, which will make nine tricks on any lead except a club, and ten with a club lead.

If East has the ace of clubs, you can score an overtrick at four hearts. Even if the ace is with West, you can still make four hearts if trumps are 2-2 or in the unlikely event that the defender who wins the second club started with a singleton trump. So it is probably right to win the ace of diamonds, cross to the table with a trump and lead a club to your king. All West has to do is win and return a trump to set your contract.

We have often maintained that rubber bridge and duplicate pairs are more like two different games than two versions of the same game. Consider this hand. Should you make your contract at rubber bridge? At duplicate?

The bidding was old-fashioned but accurate. South's opening two heart bid was strong and North's jump to game showed good trumps but denied a side-suit ace, king or singleton.

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH		EAST	
♠ 6 4 3	♠ Q J 10 7	♠ 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2	♠ A K
♥ 7 4 3	♥ 8	♥ A K Q 6 4	♥ Q 7 4 2
♦ J 10 8	♦ K Q 6 4	♦ A J 10 5	♦ 7 4 2
♣ A K	♣ 10 5 4 2	♣ A 7	♣ K 9 3

The bidding:
South West North East
2♥ Pass 4♥ Pass
Pass Pass
Opening lead: Jack of ♣